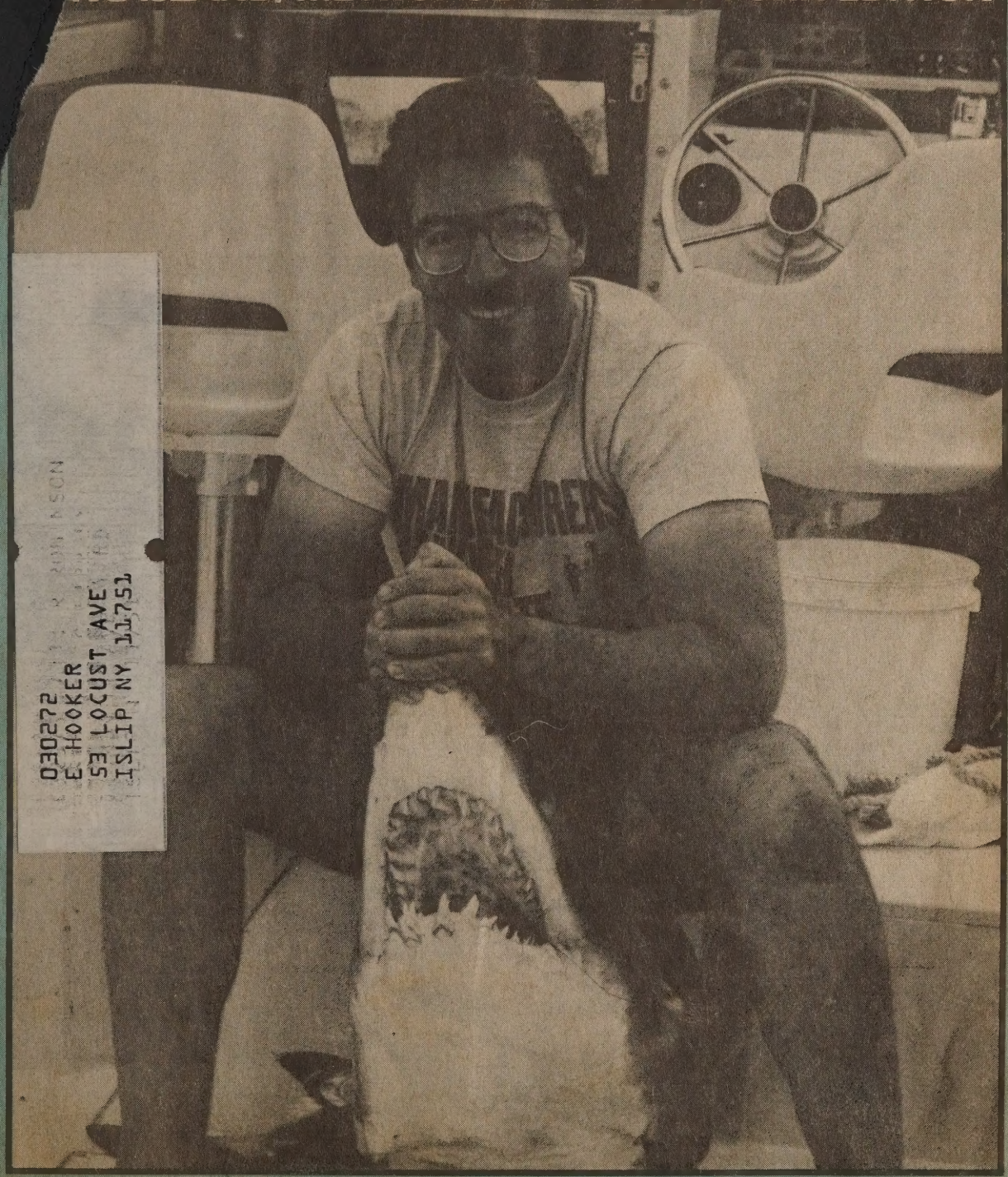
August 21st—27th, 1986, No. 33 75¢

THE Fisherman

NG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION



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Daiwa Bluefish Rod & Reel Combo

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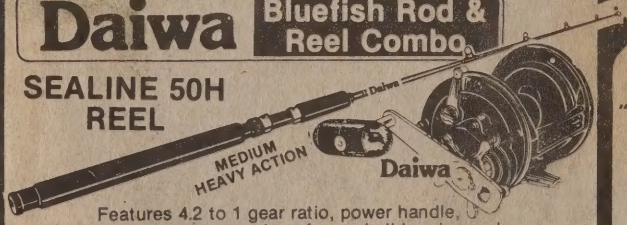

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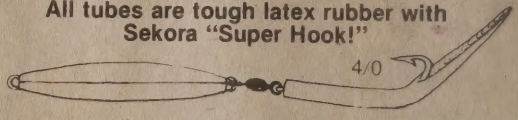

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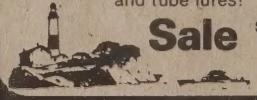

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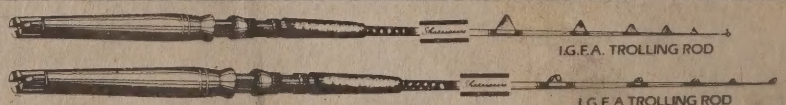

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isherman

LAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION

Number 33 August 21st, 1986

TURES:

GREATEST BLUEFISH CONTEST ON EARTH
Dick Alley 18

ANTIC WRECK SERIES: THE YANKEE
y John Raguso 20

EST END SHARKING
Part One — by Capt. Pete Mikoleski 23

HOOK TALK AND "KID STUFF"
by Matt Ahern 26

SOUND APPROACH TO JIGGING BLUES
by Brian Mulholland 28

TUNA ON THE LIGHT SIDE
by Al Ristori 30

KILLIES: A MOST UNDERESTIMATED BAIT
by Dick Mermon 32

THE FISHERMAN QUIZ
by Fred Guardineer 34

SWIM A SNAPPER IN THE SURF
by Herb Buch 35

WESTERN LONG ISLAND SOUND: MID SUMMER FISHING
by Ted Keatley 38

DEPARTMENTS:

PASS IT ON 4
PRODUCT REVIEW 12
THE CAPTAIN'S TABLE 14
THE TACKLE DOCTOR 16
FISHING REPORTS 40
TIDE & SOLUNAR TABLES 63
THE FISHERMAN'S CLASSIFIED 68

ABOUT THE COVER:

Wreck Series author, John Raguso, with a big mako taken from atop the Yankee wreck. This week's installment covers this popular wreck and provides some insight into its fish holding potential. Sharkers should find Captain Pete Mikoleski's article on page 23 of particular interest. Cover photo by John Raguso.

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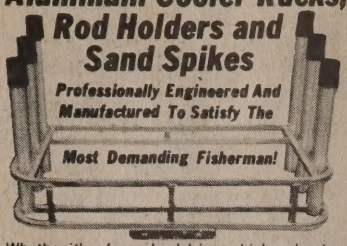
Manufacturers of Aluminum Cooler Racks, Rod Holders and Sand Spikes



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AVAILABLE IN TWO SIZES

No. 86 ..... Aluminum cooler rack fits: 80 Gott, 86 Igloo and 100 Coleman coolers. Inside dimensions 16⅝" x 34¾" with six rod holders. **$175.00**

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"Bolt On" Installation Kit

Optional kit requires *no welding* and permits removal of rack in two minutes for easy storage. Cooler Racks are available for all popular 4-wheel drive vehicles. **$85.00**

For those people able to travel to our shop our experienced technicians can install the complete cooler rack or rod rack on your vehicle for approximately $50.00. Please call us for an appointment.

Aluminum Rod Rack
For Your 4-Wheel Drive Vehicle Or Boat

- Same aluminum framework and rod holders as our cooler racks.
- Flat mounting surface allows you to bolt it on to your bumper or anywhere in your boat.
- Six rod holders fit any size rods and include synthetic rubber tips to protect your expensive reels.

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For The Surf Fisherman

- Manufactured from heavy gauge aluminum.
- 48" length for use on the beach and in the water.
- Lower stabilizer lets you drive it into the sand with your foot.
- Rod retainer has a rubber edge to protect your rod and reel. **$24.95**

Super Duty "Tow Strap"

Our Super Duty "Snatch" or Tow Strap is a must for all 4-Wheel Drive vehicles. Made of 3" wide extra thick nylon webbing with each end double reinforced. 24 ft. Tow Strap has 25,000 lb. breaking strength and comes in its own storage bag. **$39.95 each**

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PASS IT ON

SEND-A-KID FISHING PROGRAM BENEFITS FROM KIM'S REEF FLUKE DERBY

Young Jonathan Wagner of Wantagh won first place in the recent Fluke Derby hosted by Kim's Reef Fishing Station and Marina in Seaford. According to owner Joe Kmioter, the youngster's winning flattie checked in at 2 lbs. 3 oz.

One hundred and ten dollars from derby entry fees were donated to the Fisherman's Send-A-Kid Fishing Program.

AMERICAN LITTORAL SOCIETY STRIPED BASS TAG AND RELEASE PROGRAM

Striped bass landings have plummeted in the northeast and not just because the fish is in trouble on its prime breeding grounds in Chesapeake Bay.

New York State has banned the keeping of all striped bass caught in its waters. Several states have tightened regulations on commercial striped bass fishing. Other states area increasing the size and reducing bag limits on stripers, and it appears that a total ban on possession may be adopted by other striper states.

But there is a way for fishermen to enjoy their quest for striped bass and at the same time help science. The American Littoral Society, coordinator of the world's largest volunteer fish tag-and-release program, is urging fishermen to tag the fish they now have to throw back.

Society tagging records help marine biologists increase their knowledge of fish migration and growth rates. The data is stored in the National Marine Fisheries Service computer in Woods Hole, MA. Society members tag about 8,000 fish each year. Since its inception in 1965, the American Littoral Society has distributed over 160,000 tags.

When notified by a fisherman that a tagged fish has been recaptured, the Society sends information on the fish to both the original and the recapture fisherman. Each also receives a special gold fish patch in recognition of their shared catch.

Ever since the program began, more striped bass have been tagged than any other species, approximately 45,000 individual fish from Maine to South Carolina. During the boom striped bass years of the early 1970s, it was common for a member or two to tag 1000 striped bass in a season. While bass are scarcer, big numbers are still rung up: Jack O'Keeffe of Stratford, CT has tagged more than 100 striped bass, 16 to 30 inches, in the Housatonic River so far this year.

Tom Lake of Wappingers Falls, NY, who has tagged more than 70 different species, has tagged more than 1000 stripers in the Hud
Price, a charter boat ca
Choptank River, on
Eastern Shore, routinel
short bass each season
200 bass were tagged in
waters in 1985.

The Littoral Society's
been used to study migra
striped bass and have helped
surements of year-class size a
vival rates. All data are publis
the Littoral Society's mag
Underwater Naturalist.

Getting involved in this progra
simple. Join the Society for $2
year. (Club memberships are $25
year), and at the same time include
per tagging kit. Each kit contains
numbered tags, correspondin
postcards, a needle and instruction
Membership and kits are tax deduct
ble.

Membership dues also entitle
fishermen to Society publications including the latest book, *Marine Game Fish of the Middle Atlantic,* participation in field trips and special progams and frequent newsletters.

The American Littoral Society is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. For applications and information contact Pam Carlsen, Fish Tagging Director, American Littoral Society, Sandy Hook, Highlands, NJ 07732; (201) 291-0055.

NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY CELEBRATED BY SUFFOLK ALLIANCE OF SPORTSMEN

President Reagan has declared September 27th National Hunting and Fishing Day.

In keeping with our tradition of celebrating National Hunting and Fishing Day, Suffolk Alliance of Sportsmen, Inc., will be holding open house September 27th from 9AM to 5PM at the Department of Environmental Conservation Game Farm (the Co-op) on Randall Road, Ridge, NY.

There will be hands-on demonstrations of fly casting, bait casting, fly tying, archery, canoeing, trapping and more. Also, there will be working bird dog demonstrations, falcons and hunting, fishing, trapping and shooting club displays. Here is a chance to learn more about Long Island hunting and fishing opportunities, make new friends and find a club to join.

Our celebration will include Free hot dogs and beer from 12PM to 1PM. After that you are on your own.

All the candidates running for office in the November elections have been invited to meet Suffolk County Sportsmen at this celebration.

Come out and help us celebrate. This will be the only National Hunting and Fishing Day celebration in Suffolk County and possibly all of Long

We would like Everyone to experience THE "FUN" OF FISHING and at these prices - you'll love it!

PERGAMENT

$1.00

Reg. $2.95
22" GREY PLASTIC SANDSPIKE
With Stainless Steel Pin
$1.00 each

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SINCE 1897
"OMNI-FLEX" Jumbo Spool of Monofilament
- Made in U.S.A.
- 4-50 lb. test

$1.00

BLUEFISH HOOKS
These hooks come with stainless steel leaders & black swivels in sizes 5/0, 6/0 & 7/0
2 packages for $1.00

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CAMP & PICNIC SIZE INSECT REPELLENT
Repels mosquitoes, biting flies, ticks, chiggers, and other small flying insects. Long lasting. Pleasantly scented. Non greasy. Contains most effective insect repellent ingredients ever developed. **$1.00**

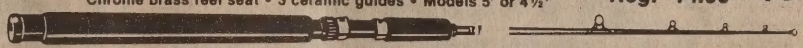
FLUKE RIG

Tandem hook and bucktail combo with spinner bead, swivel, sinker holder **$1.00** each

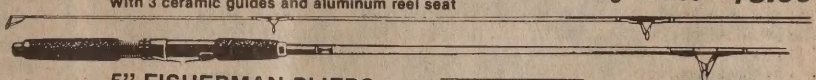
NICKEL PLATED TINS
4 Side-Swinging Spoons
— or —
3 Cast Baster Spoons
Your Choice
$1.00 per pkg.

$5.00

FLOUNDER BOAT & BAY ROD
Chrome brass reel seat • 3 ceramic guides • Models 5' or 4½'
Reg. $14.95 **$5.00**



5½', 2 PC., SOLID GLASS SPINNING ROD
With 3 ceramic guides and aluminum reel seat
Reg. $14.95 **$5.00**



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This excellent trolling lure has green skirt, clear lucite head. 12" long and weighs 1½ oz. **$5.00** each

5" FISHERMAN PLIERS

- Sportmate type
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- Teflon coating
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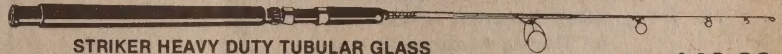
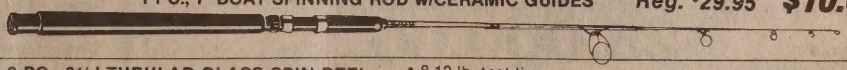
Famous Name 1/4 lb. spool of TOURNAMENT PINK PREMIUM MONO
Full yardage • 8-80 lb. test
Example:
1950 yds. of 8 lb.
625 yds. of 20 lb.
$2.99 ea
2 spools for $5.00

$10.00

STRIKER
For Both Fresh & Saltwater
STRIKER 97% GRAPHITE, 2 PC., 6½' SPINNING ROD w/ALUMINUM OXIDE GUIDES
Reg. $27.95 **$10.00**

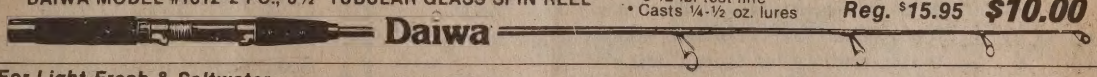


STRIKER HEAVY DUTY TUBULAR GLASS 1 PC., 7' BOAT SPINNING ROD w/CERAMIC GUIDES
Reg. $29.95 **$10.00**

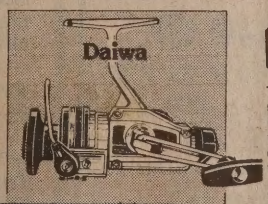


DAIWA MODEL #1312 2 PC., 6½' TUBULAR GLASS SPIN REEL
- 8-12 lb. test line
- Casts ¼-½ oz. lures

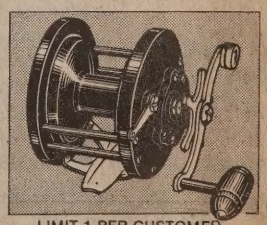
Reg. $15.95 **$10.00**



For Light Fresh & Saltwater
Daiwa
Reg. $19.95
REAR DRAG SKIRTED SPOOL SPINNING REEL
MODEL AS1350
LIMIT 1 PER CUSTOMER
$10.00
- 3.7:1 gear ratio
- Weight 10.2 ounces
- Cap. 125 yds./ 10 lb. test
- Autocast feature
- Graphite composite bushings



PENN REELS
285 PENN DELMAR w/PLASTIC SPOOL
Reg. $22.95
This popular reel features reinforced plastic spool. Has double frame posts. Full-range "Star" drag. Free spool action. Warning clicker. Strong gears. All exposed parts are of corrosion resistant brass or nickel plated brass. Approx. cap. 200 yds./30 lb. mono. Torpedo, counter-balanced handle. Gear ratio 2.3 to 1. Weight 17 oz. **$10.00**



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WICC60 PRESENTS

Join in the fun, the prizes and the fishing of the even better 1986 Greatest Bluefish Contest on Earth, August 23 and 24.

This years prizes will include

$25,000.00

in cash awards plus a TransAm from Riverside Pontiac, a boat, motor and trailer from Cerino's Marine, a 1986 recreation vehicle from Curtiss-Ryan Lincoln-Mercury-Honda, $2700 of marine electronic equipment from Milford Jai Alai, a $1000.00 fishing gear shopping spree from Stratford Bait and Tackle and a Florida Fishing Trip for two courtesy of Coors™.

For more information call the WICC Bluefish Hotline (203) 332-1859.

Radio60 WICC
Number 1.

Island. For information on how you can participate, phone Bill Shaber at (516) 475-0492.

ATLANTIS ANGLERS AUGUST 26TH MEETING

The Atlantis Anglers will have guest speaker, Lorry Mangan, a well known L.I. fishing reporter and angler. Lorry will talk about and show films on light tackle tuna fishing. She will also show how to preserve your tuna catch on the way home from the fishing grounds. Should be a great meeting.

Town of Hempstead, Guy Lombaro Marina has offered 40 slips for our second annual charity bluefish tournament on Saturday, October 18th. All fish that are caught will be filleted, iced and loaded onto trucks supplied by the Long Island Regiona Food Bank. Last year 1,500 lbs. of fillets made for many free meals. Thanks to the Town of Hempstead.

COAST GUARD FUNDING MAINTAINED: USER FEES AVOIDED

Recently, the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee took action to maintain the U.S. Coast Guard's current operations and programs while avoiding user fees for at least another year.

Earlier this year, the House unanimously approved the Committee's recommendation that the Coast Guard's FY 1987 budget be authorized at a level sufficient to carry out its important missions.

As Long Islanders, we know firsthand the vital role the Coast Guard plays in protecting life and property at sea. Its search and rescue teams save thousands of lives every year and come to the aid of boaters in emergency situations. In a typical year, the Coast Guard save property worth far more than its whole budget.

Often referred to as the fifth arm of our national defense, the Coast Guard is our country's only maritime law enforcement agency. Drug smuggling has become a growing concern, especially for Long Island. Its many inlets and coastal waterways and close promixity to New York City make Long Island particularly vulnerable to drug trafficking. However, the Coast Guard's intensified drug interdiction effort has been a key force in curbing the alarming increase in drug smuggling along our coastal waterways and halting the influx of dangerous narcotics into Long Island.

As a senior member of the Merchant Marine Committee, Congressman Norman Lent has consistently supported adequate funding to maintain Coast Guard operations and personnel. However, as you may know, every area of government has had to reduce spending to help balance the budget. As in previous years, user fees, whereby those who directly benefit from services help pay for them, were proposed to help the tackle industry, and IGFA representatives from several foreign countries

Committee meet its overall budget spending and revenue targets. In view of the substantial taxes that boaters have paid in the past, he felt it would be unfair to levy an additional user fee at this time. He and his colleagues worked hard and were able to find the required savings in other programs under the Committee's jurisdiction.

The time may come when user fees will become necessary to help prevent significant reductions in Coast Guard stations, missions and trained personnel. But until then, Long Islanders can fully appreciate the U.S. Coast Guard and its many essential services so important to Long Island.

FREE BOATING CLASS IN RIVERHEAD

The Peconic Bay Power Squadron is sponsoring a Free Boating Class for adults, over 15 years of age, at the Eastern Campus of the Suffolk County Community College, Speonk-Riverhead Road, Riverhead.

Classes will be held in Room 109 of the Shinnecock Building, starting 7PM on Tuesday, September 9th. The course will run every Tuesday for 12 weeks.

Enrollment is limited by classroom capacity. For reservations please call 298-4512 or 728-6280.

IGFA SCHEDULES AUCTION JANUARY 9TH AT BREAKERS HOTEL

The International Game Fish Association will hold its third annual International Auction and Dinner on Friday, January 9, 1987 at the Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach.

Based on the tremendous success of the 45th Anniversary Celebration and Auction in 1985, and this year's auction/dinner—each of which attracted more than 600 fishing enthusiasts—the IGFA Board of Trustees has decided to continue holding the event.

In making the announcement, IGFA President E.K. Harry stated that the previous auctions helped in the funding of several vitally needed programs to benefit all recreational anglers. He added, however, that other important projects are still in need of funds.

"We are soliciting donations from artists, the fishing industry, and everyone else interested in promoting the sport of fishing and contributing to the work of IGFA," Harry explained. "We urge everyone interested in fishing to consider donating something of value to the auction."

Stephen Sloan, IGFA trustee, again will act as chairman of the dinner/auction. Sloan said that support from the fishing industry has been exceptional, and he expects continued enthusiasm and support for the 1987 event.

Last January's auction audience consisted of a veritable "who's who" in the world of angling. There were well known sport fishermen from around the country, leaders in the

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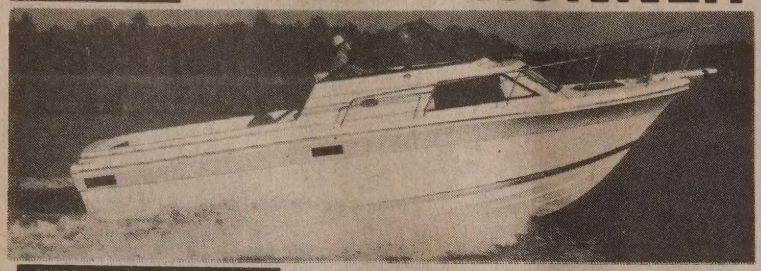

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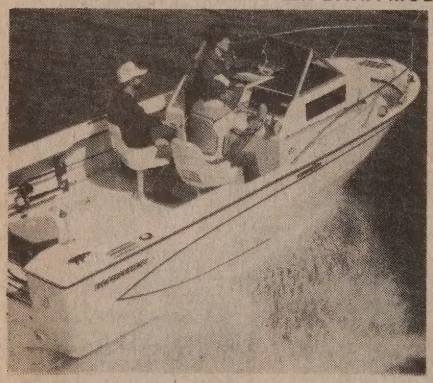

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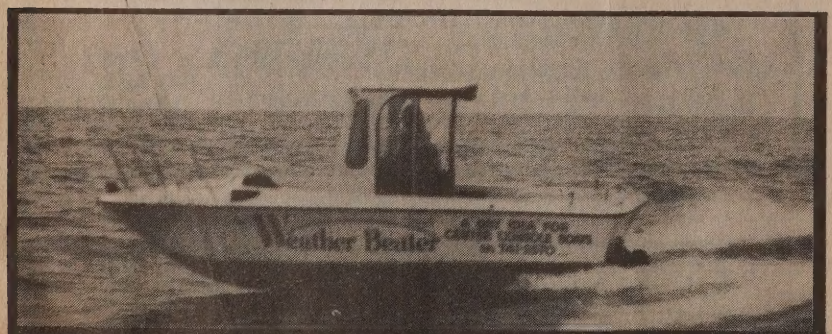

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in attendance.

More than 240 items were selected and bought, including 160 silent auction items. Original oil paintings and sculptures were purchased. Some of the larger items included a Ford Bronco, Grady White and Mako boats with motors, plus a wide assortment of fishing paraphernalia such as fighting chairs, rods and reels and "FADs" (fish aggregating devices).

Some of the bargains included fishing trips ranging from giant bluefin tuna fishing in Nova Scotia to striped marlin fishing in New Zealand.

Chairman Sloan anticipates an equally impressive array of items to be donated for next January's auction. Donors to the auction will be recognized in the preliminary international bidding list to be distributed prior to the auction, and on the auction program.

Anglers unable to attend the auction will be permitted to mail in bids on items listed in the preliminary bidding brochure to be distributed to IGFA members worldwide.

More details, including ticket prices will be announced in forthcoming issues of the *International Angler*. Meanwhile, anyone wishing to make early reservations for the auction can write to IGFA Headquarters, 3000 East Las Olas Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316, Attention: Steve Sloan, auction chairman.

JOHNSON INCREASES FISH SIZE LIMITS

State Senator Owen H. Johnson (4th S.D.) today announced that the Governor has signed into law a bill he sponsored to provide for a new eight inch minimum size limit for the recreational taking of winter flounder and a 15 inch minimum size limit for Atlantic cod. Commercial fishermen have been restricted to the eight inch limit on winter flounder since the 1950s.

Senator Johnson, who is Chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on the Long Island Marine District, explained that the eight inch minimum size limit for winter flounder will enable a greater number of these fish to remain in the water and spawn at least once prior to entering the fishery. Recreational fishermen voiced support for the new size limit at a hearing Senator Johnson held in January and the legislation was developed as a result of that hearing.

The 15 inch minimum size limit for Atlantic cod conforms New York State laws to regulations which are expected to be issued by the New England Fishery Management Council. The new size limit will help to protect dwindling cod stocks, a necessary measure since cod are an important species for both commercial and recreational fishing industries.

The new law also establishes a standard measuring technique for marine fish. This standard will aid the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in enforcing mini-

mum size limits which are frequently violated by out-of-state commercial trawlers.

"This new law will help ensure that our winter flounder and cod stocks will be available for future generations to enjoy," Senator Johnson concluded.

FISHERY MANAGEMENT STUDY COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED

The public comment period for a major review of fishery management in the United States has been extended to September 8th, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which commissioned the study.

The 63-page study is part of an overall assessment of the fishery management system created by the 10 year old Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Public and industry comments on the report are being sought.

The study examines fundamental fishery management concepts among fishery progams and makes specific recommendations on several topics, including the fishery management council appointment process, limited entry, the gathering of statistics and scientific information, fees and licenses, enforcement, and efforts to "Americanize" U.S. fisheries.

Copies of the report, "NOAA Fishery Management Study," are available free from the National Marine Fisheries Service (PAF), Washington, D.C. 20235.

TIPS FOR BOATS & RV OWNERS

If you own a boat or RV, you have probably had the experience of a dead battery, one time or another. Many people don't know that batteries leak electricity while they are left unused. A battery unused become drained, and its ability to charge is damaged. At best, this means you have a time consuming recharge on your hands when you want to use your boat or RV. At worst, it means an expensive battery replacement.

Now there's a practical solar electric panel that uses the kind of collector you've seen in watches and calculators. The SUNMATE solar charger which converts sunlight directly into electricity, will keep your battery charged even in dim light. Sunmate is ideal for boat and RVs that are not used everyday. Sunmate takes advantage of the sun as a free energy source providing enough power to operate running lights, bilge pumps, cabin fans, blowers, radios and navigational aids. Sunmate has no fuel or maintenance costs, is electrically safe, and has no moving parts. Just reliable, silent, pollution free power.

Sunmate solar chargers also fit any boat, RV, or budget. It's simply the most practical solution to keeping your batteries charged with a cost from just under $99. For more information, visit: Tri-U.S. Energy show room at 130 Commerce Drive, Hauppauge, or call (516) 231-6995.

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1986 215 Cuddy Cabin Cobia w/'86 190 H.P. & '86 EZ Roll Trailer ..... $15,990.
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1986 17' Center Console Proline /'86 90 H.P. Yamaha & '86 EZ Roll Tr... $10,000.
1986 Center Console Proline w/115 H.P. Yamaha & '86 EZ Roll Trailer ... $12,000.
1987 21' Walkaround Cabin Proline w/'86 115 H.P. Yamaha & '86 EZ Roll Trailer ..... $16,000.
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NEW YORK SURF FISHING CONTEST STANDINGS

(Period Ending: June 30, 1986)
sponsored by The Fisherman

CLUB STANDINGS—

CLUB	BASS	BLUE	WEAK	TOTAL
1. Mid Island Surfcasters	331	177	83	591
2. Patchogue Fishing Club	178	141	144	463
3. Gateway Striper Club	220	183	36	439
4. East End Surf Club	11	164	217	392
5. Farragut Striper Club	71	217	66	354
6. High Hill Striper Club	57	151	106	314
7. Hampton Surf Club	272	33	0	305
8. L.I. Surf Fishers Assoc.	84	46	0	151
9. Striper Surf Club	28	97	0	125

HEAVIEST STRIPED BASS—Individual Standings

ANGLER	WEIGHT	CLUB
1. H. Wojcik	55 pounds, 0 ounces	HSC
2. W. Joseph	36 pounds, 0 ounces	FSC
J. Hanson	36 pounds, 0 ounces	GSC
3. H. Wojcik	35 pounds, 8 ounces	HSC

HEAVIEST BLUEFISH—Individual Standings

ANGLER	WEIGHT	CLUB
1. D. Ebner	12 pounds, 0 ounces	PFC
2. R. Koester	8 pounds, 13 ounces	LISA
3. O. Van Helmond	8 pounds, 8 ounces	PFC

HEAVIEST WEAKFISH—Individual Standings

ANGLER	WEIGHT	CLUB
1. D. Meola	13 pounds, 4 ounces	EES
2. O. Van Helmond	12 pounds, 8 ounces	PFC
3. G. Just	12 pounds, 4 ounces	EES

MOST POINTS OVERALL—Individual Top 20

ANGLER	CLUB	BASS	BLUE	WEAK	TOTAL
1. O. Van Helmond	PFC	81	61	75	217
2. W. Miller	MIS	174	16	20	210
3. J. Paduano	EES	11	89	75	175
4. T. Watters	MIS	91	68	0	159
5. D. Palmer	MIS	30	58	29	117
6. H. Wojcik	HSC	107	9	0	116
7. J. McKay	GSC	81	34	0	115
8. W. Joseph	FSC	36	75	0	111
9. W. Muller	HHS	0	88	9	97
10. J. Augeri	GSC	13	62	19	94
11. K. Britz	HSC	83	10	0	93
12. J. Sapienza	LISA	47	28	14	89
13. S. Caccavale	FSC	0	88	0	88
14. T. Farrell	GSC	24	56	0	80
15. G. Wade	FSC	12	48	13	73
16. M. Borucke	HSC	63	7	0	70
17. D. Meola	EES	0	22	43	65
18. M. Sarro	SSC	28	37	0	65
19. G. Lelaidier	PFC	46	11	0	57
20. G. Maher	PFC	13	8	33	54

RELEASED FISH POINTS—Top 3 Clubs

1. Gateway Striper Club ..... 715 points
2. Mid Island Surfcasters ..... 697 points
3. High Hill Striper Club ..... 329 points

WOMEN'S DIVISION—Heaviest of Species

E. Paduano EES Weakfish 10 pounds, 8 ounces

OUT OF STATE STRIPED BASS—Top 3 Clubs

1. Striper Surf Club ..... 255 points
2. Farragut Striper Club ..... 20 points

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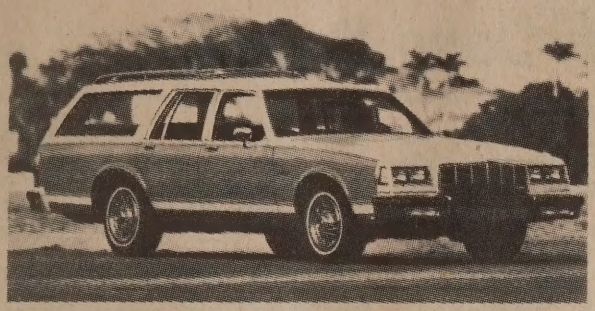

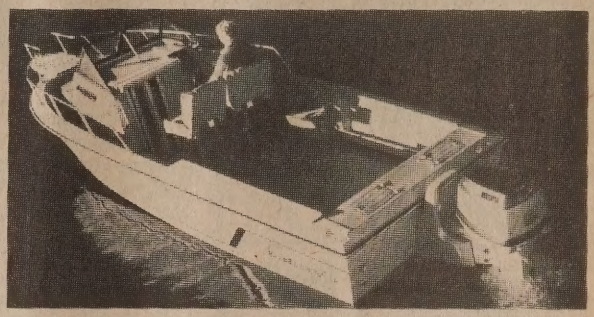

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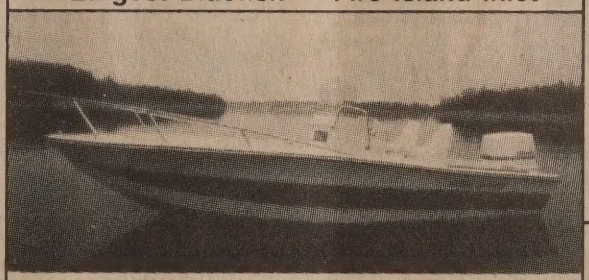
Largest Bluefish — Fire Island Inlet



1800 BOAT — Johnson OUTBOARD — COX TRAILER — SI-TEX ELECTRONICS

Largest Bluefish — Jones Inlet

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BERTRAM YACHT	RANGER BOATS
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GALAXY	RYBO RUNNER
GRADY-WHITE	SEA RAY
HATTERAS	TIARA
HYDRA-SPORTS	WELLCRAFT

RED MAN

$10,000 CASH

on Monday, September 1. All fishermen eligible except the top four prize winning boats. Must be present to win.

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$10,000 CASH BONUS

Boston Whaler will award a $10,000 cash bonus to the grand prize winner if the fish is caught in a Boston Whaler.

FORMULA

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$12,500 CASH

to the overall champion fishing team who catches the most pounds for the two days of competition (maximum 5 fish per day).

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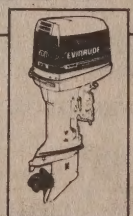

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★ PRODUCT REVIEW ★

RELIABLE BELT & HARNESS

by John Raguso

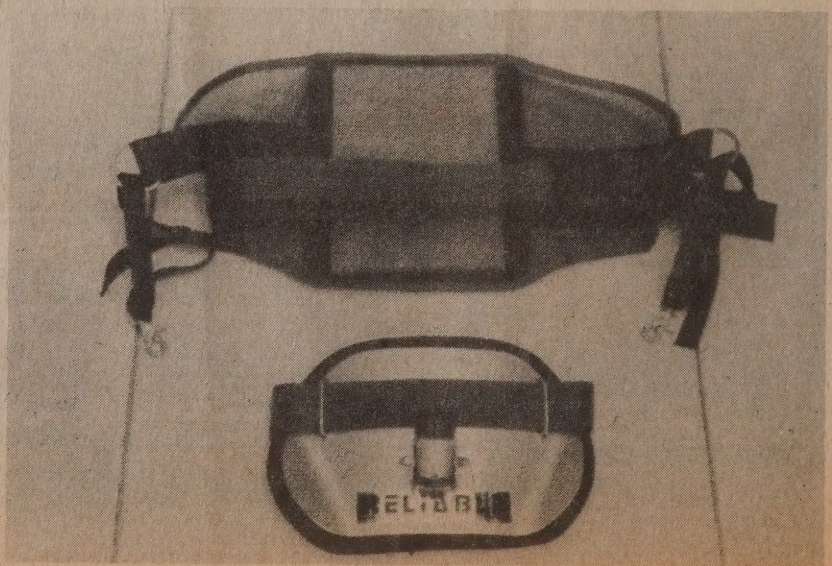
Normally, when someone hears this phrase directed at them, they know they're in for a tussle. When Jerry Schnur of Reliable Gaffs adopted this tag line for his new stand-up fighting belt and kidney harness, the action he had in mind was the East Coast answer to the West Coast method of fish fighting that many knowledgeable anglers have been using for years.

Well, now that skipper Frank LoPreste, of the San Diego-based Royal Polaris, has been making the sportsman's circuit preaching the "stand up" gospel, we've seen a number of belt and harness combos introduced in the marketplace in the last two years. These products are being tailored to satisfy the unfulfilled demand created by the substantial East Coast market and they're a tremendous improvement over what was available just a few scant years ago.

What's interesting about the Reliable version of these stand up accoutrements is that Jerry Schnur waited until only a few months ago to introduce these items, using all of last season and research and development time to work with Montauk's foremost tuna skippers to perfect the design and to build in maximum utility to the belt and harness. The Reliable products are even compatible with the new mini curved butts marketed by Aftco and will allow you to really "put the wood" to a 200 lb. pelagic with minimum strain on your body.

At the heart of the Reliable "Stand Up and Fight" system is their new fighting belt. This unit is manufactured from a 1/8 inch thick sheet of the highest quality hardened and tempered aircraft grade aluminum. It incorporates a unique upward curvature where the belt would rest over each of your thighs, which prevents the unit from digging into your legs when you start pumping the rod to raise a stubborn fish. It's backed by a 1/2 inch piece of closed-cell foam padding which form-fits the aluminum plate and provides a comfortable buffer between your body and the hardware. Another novel feature of the Reliable fighting belt is that it features a 2 inch thick nylon belt held in place by a heavy duty, practically indestructable delrin cam-action buckle, similar to those found on aircraft seat belts. The unit is complemented by an aluminum gimbal cup which swivels on a stainless steel pin and has a vinyl border around its perimeter to prevent scratching your rod butt.

The upper level of the combo is the



kidney harness, which is manufactured from a synthetic nylon fabric that breathes very easily, to reduce your sweat factor during a prolonged battle and Jerry claims that this material is practically indestructible and is resistant to tearing. It hooks up to your reel's harness lugs via two heavy duty bronze snaps and rings, and there's no plating of any kind to peel off or rust on the hardware. You attach it to yourself around the waist using the same locking system as the gimbal belt, namely via an aircraft style delrin buckle with a 2 inch nylon web strap.

I've been using stand-up gear ever since I've been hooked on blue water fishing and that's going on 12 years now, so I was particularly interested to see if this was just another "me too' product or something really special. Let me tell you right away that this stand-up combo warrants a long look from anyone who's seriously into this style of fishing.

While all this sounds good in theory, I'm sure that you have that one burning question. How does it work in the ultimate testing grounds: the salt-water laboratory? I was fortunate to get one of the first setups that came off the production line and even more fortunate to give it the acid test with those 50 to 100 lb. yellowfin tuna we've had recently on the 15 to 20 fathom wrecks situated south of Fire Island. The stuff works! Even though I'm 6' 3" and over 200 lbs., my stomach area is still sensitive from the dual hernia fixes I've had in the last few years. This Reliable belt and harness made me forget about those old wounds and I stood up and fought, and won a few to boot!

As with all products in the Reliable lineup, the fighting belt and kidney harness carry an unconditional lifetime guarantee, even if you've lost your receipt. It's also interesting to note that Jerry Schnur, his son Bruce and wife Flo all take an active part in the manufacturing of this equipment. It's done entirely by hand in a super modern machine shop using proprietary machines and dies, and "Captain Hook" incorporates his proud old-world Austrian craftsmanship into every unit. That's nice to know in this era of mass production.

In summary, the Reliable "Stand Up and Fight" combo gets the job done and will make you feel a whole lot better at the conclusion of a tough argument with a powerful mako or tuna. Each unit should retail for about $60 to $70, depending on the discount policy at your local tackle shop and when you add up the bottom line ($120 to $140), it sure beats spending $5,000 or so on a fighting chair that you probably spend more time sleeping in than anything else.

If you have any questions, give either Jerry or Bruce Schnur a call at (516) 933-6970. They even answer the phone!

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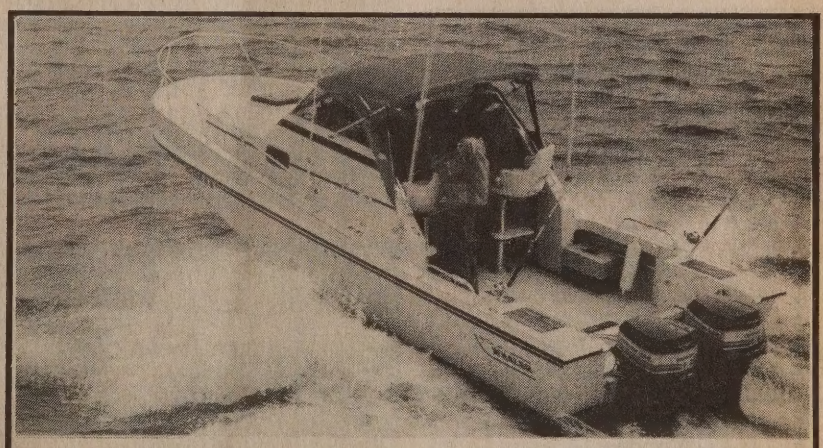

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★ THE CAPTAIN'S TABLE ★

"HOT 'N SPICY" INDIAN DISHES

by Sal Agliano

Several years ago, a dear friend, Marjorie Burrell, fixed me one of her native Jamaican dishes, "Escoveitch," in appreciation for the sackful of freshly caught porgies I had given her. As I was smacking my lips to the final morsel of fish, I decided to top off the meal with a long, red pepper she had used to garnish the dish.

Margie rushed across the room waving her hands. "Don't eat the pepper!" she shouted in her melodic West Indian accent. "That's only for flavor."

Unfortunately, her warning was too late. In one gulp, I had devoured the pepper—seeds, stem, and all. Within seconds, my mouth, lips and innards felt as if they had been given a blast from a blow torch. Quickly, Margie gave me a tall glass of cold milk to put out the fire in my stomach, then she soaked a piece of bread in milk as sort of a cold compress to be placed on my burning tongue. Temporary relief came in moments, yet it was several days before I fully recovered.

Eventually I forgot about the unpleasant experience, yet the haunting flavor of the dish lingered in my memory for some time. Margie graciously gave me the recipe and I prepared the dish myself, substituting cherry peppers for the fiery Jamaican peppers she had used.

Escoveitch

4 porgies, 3/4 to 1½ lbs. each
2 cups water
juice of 2 limes
2 tbsp liquid from jar of cherry peppers
1 tbsp sugar
1/2 cup flour
1/2 cup cooking oil
2½ cups water
2½ cups vinegar
4 cherry peppers, cut in chunks
1 large onion, thinly sliced
1 carrot, peeled and sliced julienne style
1 tsp whole peppercorns
salt to taste

Scale, gut and behead the porgies. Rinse the fish and place in a baking dish. Add two cups of water, lime juice, cherry pepper liquid, and sugar. Make sure fish are completely covered. Let stand overnight in refrigerator.

The next day drain the porgies, pat

Fresh porgies in the 3/4 to 1½ pound size range are best suited to Escoveitch. *William Stamatis photo.*

them dry, then dredge lightly in flour. Heat oil in a skillet and fry fish on both sides until brown and crisp.

In a saucepan, heat the 2½ cups of water and vinegar to boiling. Lower flame to simmer and add cherry peppers, sliced onion, sliced carrot and peppercorns. Simmer for about 15 minutes.

Place cooked porgies in a shallow dish and pour pan liquid over them, covering the fish completely. Sprinkle on salt and refrigerate for several hours. Serve cold, but remember: don't eat the peppers!

* * *

I was still unfamiliar with West Indian cookery when another friend of Jamaican ancestry, Patricia Wright, gave me a family recipe handed down to her from her grandmother. The dish was called "Run Down" and it seemed simple enough to prepare.

The recipe called for coconut milk as a poaching liquid in which to cook the fish. Well, the novice that I was, I had already poured out the liquid from a dozen coconuts when I realized I hadn't nearly enough liquid to prepare the dish and that something was amiss. I went back to Pat for further clarification and found out that the liquid in the center of the coconut was **not** coconut milk, but coconut water. Coconut milk had to be extracted from the pulp of the coconut. Following Pat's instructions, I made a second attempt and was successful. And with only two coconuts!

Run Down

2 codfish steaks, about 6 oz. each
1 tbsp cooking oil
2 large, ripe coconuts
1 large onion, thinly sliced
1 small sweet pepper, cut in strips
1 rib of celery, diced
1/2 tsp garlic powder
1/2 tsp thyme
1/2 tsp curry powder
1/2 tsp paprika
salt and pepper to taste

Split coconuts and remove the white pulp. Using a cheese grater, shred the pulp into a large bowl. Add enough warm water to cover shredded coconut and set aside. After two hours, squeeze the shredded coconut to extract the milk. Pour and strain the liquid into another bowl. Discard pulp and set liquid (coconut milk) aside.

In a large skillet, heat oil and sear codfish steaks on both sides. Remove fish from pan and set aside. Allow skillet to cool, then wipe it out. Pour coconut milk into skillet and heat to the boil. Once boiled, reduce flame to a gentle simmer. Add onion, sweet pepper, celery, garlic powder, thyme, curry powder and paprika. Simmer for about 5 minutes. Add seared codfish steaks and continue simmering for about 20 minutes. Add more water as liquid evaporates.

Serve codfish steaks on a warm platter. Top with pan liquid and cooked vegetables. Season with salt and pepper.

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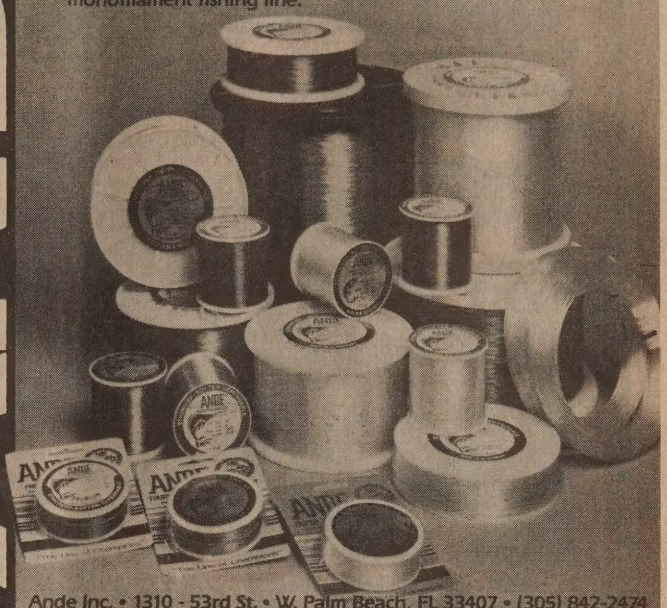

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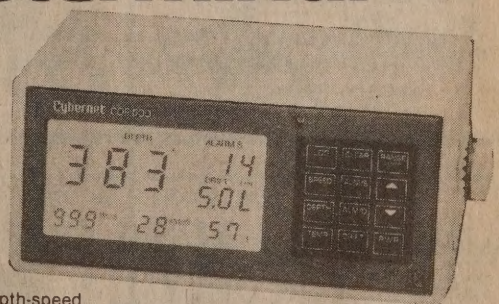

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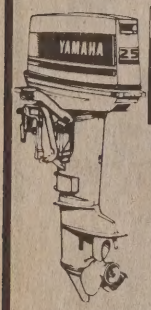

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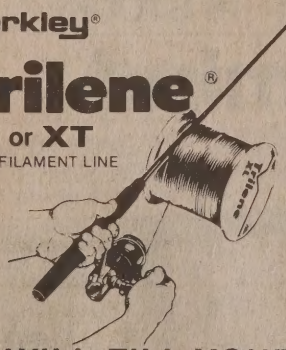
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THE TACKLE DOCTOR

by Russ Wilson

Dear Doc,

I have an old Ru Mer spinning reel that was made in France. I need a bailer. I've tried tackle stores with no luck. Some dealers never heard of the reel. There's very little information on the reel housing except for Ru Mer Super. *Ed Majusky.*

Dear Ed,

The Ru Mer Super was a very popular spinning reel in the 60s. It was imported from France and marketed extensively throughout the States and was known for its workhorse qualities when used in the salt. Unfortunately, newer, more advanced spinning mills with skirted spools gained popularity and are the standard today.

You should be able to locate parts for that particular model at one of the tackle shops in your area. There are plenty of the Ru Mer reels floating around the marketplace at moderate prices.

We did not use a bail with our Ru Mer Super or Pacific model. The company, at one time, included a manual bail setup that we found superior to the standard bail arrangement, which was a finger type bar that often smacked a knuckle as the line was retrieved.

Ask around. I'm positive you will find someone who has or knows of someone else who wants to sell an old Ru Mer at bargain basement price. You might also visit a few garage or yard sales in your local area. Quite often fishermen unload old tackle at a yard sale and you can find some outstanding bargains.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I have a Lamiglass rod #1165 11½ feet long and I have SS guides on now. I would like to change these guides for the new ceramic guides. The problem is where do you put the guides: on the spline down or the spline up when using a spinning reel?

The reason I am asking is that the guides and the spin reel and the spline are all on the bottom of the rod.

Locating the spline prior to assembling a custom rod. ***Captain Pete Mikoleski photo.***

Now when I am pulling in a fish the rod has a tendency to jump to the right or to the left, except when I hold the rod very tight. This twist makes my wrists very sore (tired) if I fish too long.

I have read that one writer says the spline should be up, and another says the spline should be down. One is right and one is wrong. Can you tell me what to do in my case.

Francis Patkowski.

Dear Francis,

We've always built our rods with the spline in the down position. Others say the spline should be in the up position so the rod has a tendency to "snap" back after the cast.

John Emery, in his book "How to Build Custom Made Handcrafted Fishing Rods," claims the spline should be in the down position so the curve of the rod is facing the fish during the fight. Emery did note, however, that with bait casting rods some custom builders will align the spline at a 90 degree angle from the guides so the spline is facing the direction of the cast.

We have built our rods in the same manner for more than 30 years and have yet to encounter a situation such as you describe with the rod turning when pressure is applied. I'd say you may not have the spline aligned with the guide placement and that's causing the rod to turn.

* * *

Dear Tackle Doctor:

I am hoping you can solve a problem I am having with my tackle box. I own a Rebel 920 hip roof tackle box and the plastic handle developed a crack and broke. I have tried to construct a new handle, but I have been unsuccessful.

Also, I am planning on purchasing a surf rod and reel to catch bluefish and eventually red drum from the beaches of the Outer Banks. I saw a 12 foot Fenwick Atlantic Stik and Penn 750 SS rod and reel combination in a catalog. I was wondering if this rod and reel combination would be a good choice. If not, what rod and reel would be suitable. Any books or other sources of information on tackle, bait and fishing in this area would be greatly appreciated. Thanks again.

Robert Berg.

Dear Robert,

I suggest you write directly to Rebel Division, Plastics Research and Development Corp., 3601 Jenny Lind, P.O. Box 1587, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72902 or call them at (501) 782-8971 to request information concerning the price of a replacement handle.

Most companies that market plastic tackle boxes offer replacement parts including handles and covers at reasonable prices. You might save time by calling and getting a price quote on the parts you need. Then all you will have to do is forward Rebel a check for the amount which will speed up your request.

new

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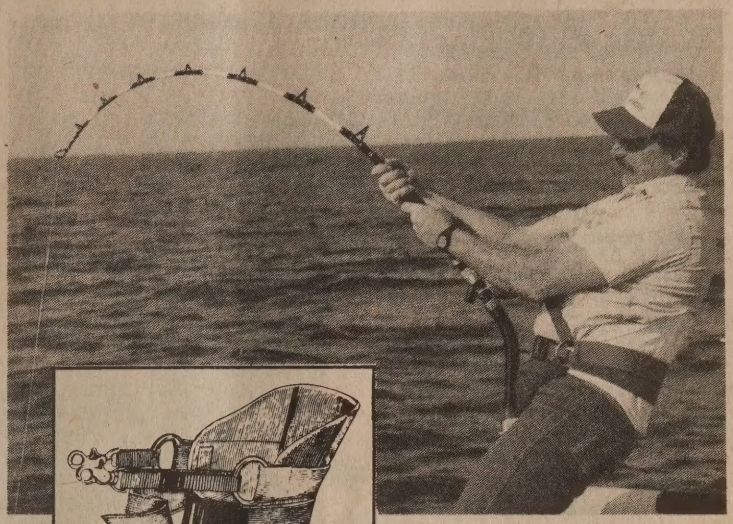

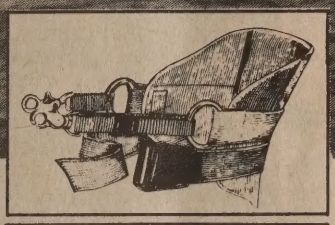

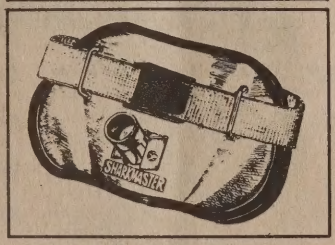

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THE GREATEST BLUEFISH CONTEST ON EARTH

by Dick Alley

In these days of slammer blues, alligators and monsters, the terms all come together over the weekend of August 23rd and 24th, in the annual "Greatest Bluefish Contest," sponsored by Radio Station WICC, in Bridgeport, Ct.

This contest draws big, but it's a contest that is within the reach of almost every angler and just about anyone could and does have a good shot at winning one of the big prizes.

Top prize is a check for $10,000, which goes simply to the angler who weighs in the biggest bluefish. Following, are 15 more cash prizes of $1,000 each for the next 15 biggest bluefish. Sounds easy? Well, you're right. It is easy and simple and should you be in the right place at the right time, using the right bait or lure, you could win one of these fabulous cash prizes.

And that's not all! Prior to the contest, in the presence of witnesses, six blues will be captured, tagged and returned alive at an undisclosed location on Long Island Sound. The list of prizes for these six tagged fish, is impressive to say the least.

A 1986 Pontiac Trans-Am (courtesy of Riverside Pontiac in Westport, Ct.).

Larson runabout, powered by a Mercruiser stern drive, on an Easy-loader trailer (courtesy Cerino's Marine).

$2,700 worth of marine electronics, including a VHF radio, Loran C, radar and color fish recorder, courtesy Milford Jai Alai.

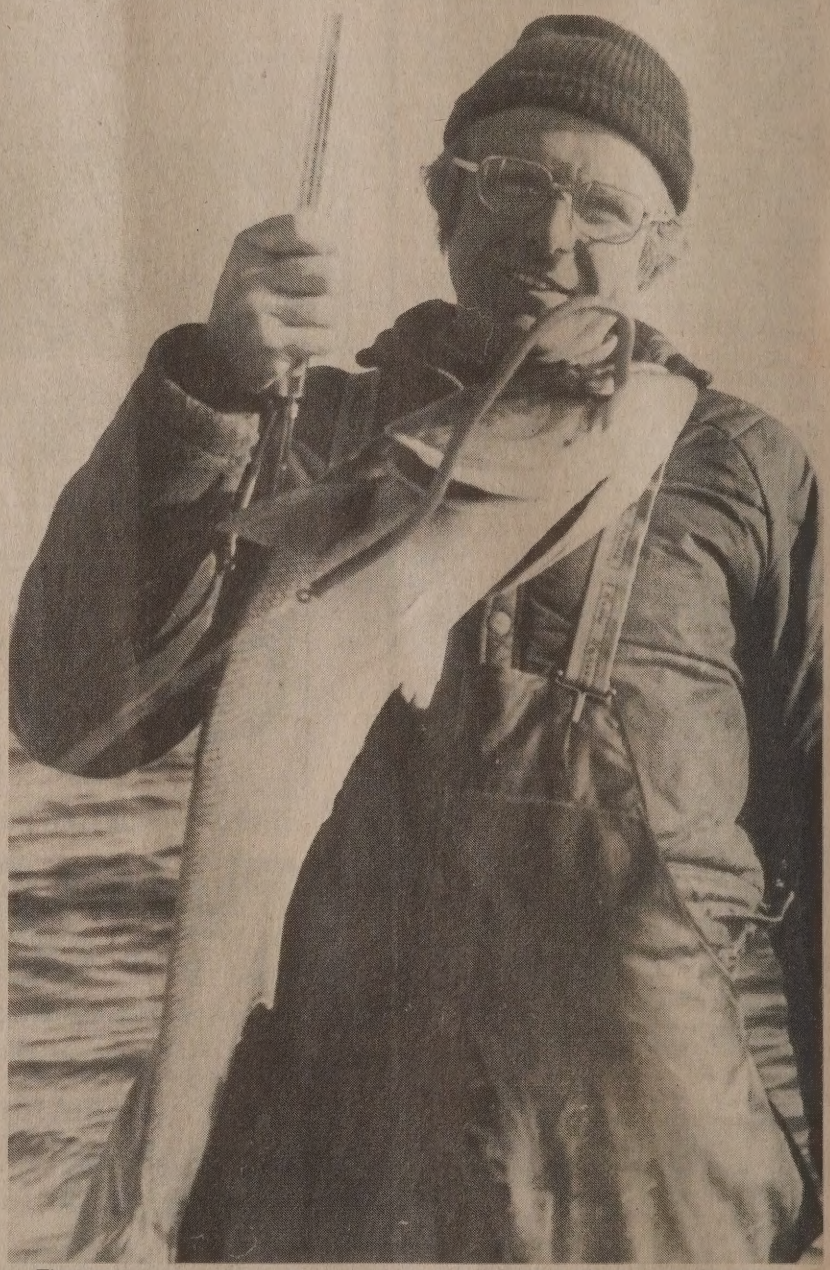
Four-wheel drive, Honda Station Wagon, courtesy Curtis-Ryan, Lincoln-Mercury-Honda, in Shelton, Ct.

A $1,000 shopping spree for fishing tackle at Stratford Bait and Tackle (courtesy Stratford B&T, Stratford, Ct.) and a trip for two to the Florida Keys (courtesy Coors Brewery).

A lucky catch of one of these tagged fish could bring the angler one of the above prizes. While no tagged fish have been caught in the previous contests, almost anyone who fishes on a steady basis can recall a tagged fish at some time or other. My tagged fish experience was a bluefish off Burial Hill Beach several years ago, that had been tagged at Martha's Vineyard, only a week previous.

Applications for this year's contest are well ahead of last year, which will make the competition better and more fun.

How does one get an application?



Thousands of anglers will be seeking out slammer blues on Long Island Sound this weekend.

The following are official registration stations in Conn. and Long Island:

Rudy's Boat Livery, 242 So. Water St., Greenwich; Fisherman's World-Liberty Square, East Norwalk; Stratford Bait and Tackle, 1076.5 Stratford Ave., Stratford; Cerino's Marine, 164 Rogers Ave., Milford; Massey's Bait and Tackle, 328 Shore Drive, Branford; Fairfield Trading Post, 1580 Post Rd., Fairfield; Sportsmans Rendezvous, 542 Boston Post Rd.,

Stratford.

Long Island: Port Jefferson, Sutler's Bait and Tackle; King's Park, O.K. Bait and Tackle; Glen Cove, Glen Cove Sport; and Huntington, Four Winds Tackle Shop.

Westchester: City Island, Jack's Bait and Tackle.

In addition, those contestants from last year should have received applications in the mail by now. Many other tackle shops and convenience stores, both in Long Island and Conn., have applications which can be picked up and mailed in.

The entry fee is $20 and includes a free T-shirt.

The contest itself begins at 12:01 AM Saturday morning, August 23rd and ends at 5PM on Sunday, August 24th. During that time period, fish can be weighed in at any official weigh-in station.

Connecticut weigh-in stations include: Bridgeport—Captains Cove Marina, Bostwick Ave.; Stratford—Stratford Marina, 50 Housatonic Ave.; Branford—Massey's Bait and Tackle, 328 Shore Drive; Norwalk—Fisherman's World, Liberty Square; and Greenwich—Rudy's Boat Livery, 242 South Water St.

Long Island: Port Jefferson—Sutler's Bait and Tackle; King's Park—O.K. Bait and Tackle; Glen Cove—Glen Cove Sport, 189 Forest Ave.

Where the winner will come from this year, is anybody's guess. Last year's winner was caught in New York waters, but of the next 15 winners, most were taken in Conn. waters. Almost all if not all of the fish were taken on live or cut bunker. The winning fish ranged in size from a top of 19.42 lbs., to the fifteenth placed fish, which was 16.67 lbs. The winners tote board changed constantly throughout the weekend and weather also had an effect, with changing weather fronts coming through.

This season shows signs of even bigger bluefish moving into the winners slots, as the entire bluefish scene is exciting and changing constantly. One day they're in Norwalk, then in Westport, then it gets hot up Stratford way. Greenwich waters have been the most consistent producer of big blues at this writing, but that too could change between now and the starting gun.

Smart fishermen will save and scan copies of The Fisherman. They will be staying tuned into Radio Station WICC for constant updates from flying reporter Morgan Kaolian, throughout the weekend. WICC is at 60 on your AM dial.

Most of all, contestants will need a bit of luck. No matter how skillful you are, no matter the preparations, or the equipment you have, it's still a matter of being in the right place at the right time to come up with the big one.

This biggest bluefish contest has developed into a popular event on Long Island Sound, and is sure to get even bigger. Best of luck to all!

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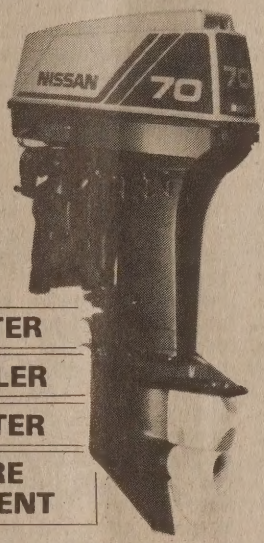

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ATLANTIC WRECK SERIES: THE YANKEE

by John Raguso

This week's installment of the Atlantic Wreck Series is going to investigate the sinking of one of the south shore of Long Island's most productive wrecks, namely the Yankee. This vessel was built as a coastwise steamship by the Globe Iron Works back in 1890. She was originally named "The German," but her name was changed to "The Yankee" some time before she foundered in June of 1919.

There is not an abundance of data concerning the sinking of the Yankee. The New York Times only had a few short lines on the topic and the secondary sources of books and articles came up totally empty. Even the fairly reliable cadre of wreck historians were unable to shed any additional light on the Yankee's collision and sinking. However, based on a tip from Freeport's resident wreck expert, Frank Cerbini, I was able to track down some background info on the Yankee from the National Archives down in Washington, D.C., so let's take a step back in time to see how this United States Shipping Board steamer met her fate.

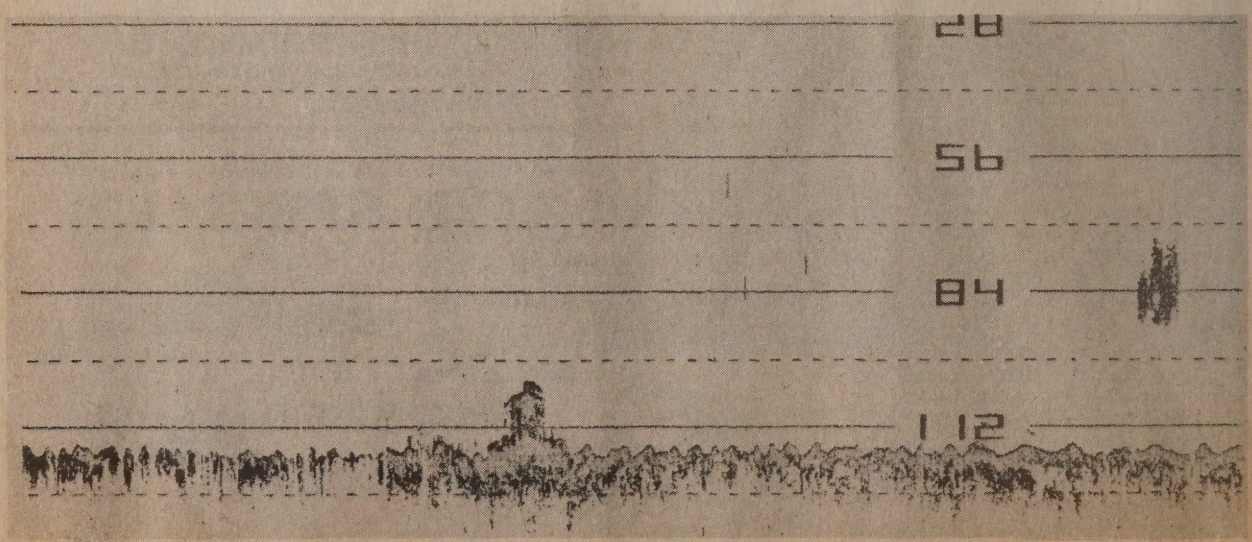
The following is an excerpt from an accident report filed to the Secretary of Commerce by the Deputy Supervising Inspector General of the New York region. In it, Mr. D.N. Hoover goes on to say, "On June 12, 1919, about 3:15 AM, the steamer Yankee collided with the Italian steamer Argentina, about 12 miles SSW of Fire Island, tearing a hole in the port side, in the after cargo space and port coal bunker, resulting in the sinking of the steamer Yankee.

"The testimony in this case was taken by the local inspectors at Providence, Rhode Island, and Boston, Massachusetts, and it was found that on the date mentioned, the Yankee was approaching the port of New York, having reached a point about 12 miles SSW of Fire Island Light Ship. A dense fog prevailed and the vessel was proceeding at a slow speed, and heading about NNE. Lookouts were stationed, and a fog signal was being sounded at regular intervals. Suddenly, the lights of the Italian steamer Argentina were seen about two points on the port bow, and the vessel apparently headed ESE. The engines of the Yankee were at once stopped, but as it was seen that a collision was inevitable, the helm of the Yankee was brought hard-a-port, and the engines were started ahead for the purpose, if possible, of paralleling the other vessel. This was almost accomplished, but the ships closed in, and the starboard bow of the Argentina struck the port side, forward, of the Yankee. The Argentina then sheered off, apparently under the influence of the starboard propeller going ahead, and the port propeller going astern, which had the effect of throwing the after part of the Argentina into the Yankee, which caused the American steamer to fill with seawater at a rate beyond what the pumps could control. The principal damage was caused by the starboard propeller of the Argentina. Efforts were made to stop the opening with mattresses and other material, without success and as the pumps could not keep the vessel free, it was believed impossible to reach port and the Yankee was abandoned. The crew was taken on board the Argentina, and afterwards transferred to port by another vessel. The Yankee sank a few minutes after the collision, about 3:30AM, June 12th.

"There was no evidence of negligence or misconduct found on the part of the licensed officers of the steamer Yankee and the case was dismissed."

The master of the Yankee, Captain Dennis A. Mugan, escaped with the rest of his crew of 22, in addition to eight passengers who also abandoned ship without injury. Upon returning to the port of New York, some of the Yankee's crew were interviewed by New York Times reporters, and the following is the only coverage provided by this newspaper concerning the incident:

"Steamer Yankee in Crash. Crew Abandons Ship After Collision Off Fire Island: The Italian steamship Argentina collided with the steamship Yankee, operated by the United States Shipping Board, off Fire Island Light late last night. The Yankee was reported to be leaking so badly that



West to east over a main section of the Yankee's hull. Note the large school of bluefish at the 80 foot mark downtide of the wreck.

she was abandoned by her captain and crew. They were taken aboard the Argentina, which is standing by."

The next day, the Times carried some expanded coverage of the event, but in an "executive summary" format: "The crew of the Yankee which was rammed and sunk off Fire Island by the Argentina, a former Austrian liner, was brought into port yesterday by the tug Margaret E. Sandford. The seamen had been rescued by the Argentina and taken to the Cardinal Light Ship to await a boat to this port.

"According to John Gargan, a member of the Yankee's crew, there were two distinct crashes. The Argentina first struck the Yankee diagonally, bow on, and then veered around and struck her again, this time punching a large hole in the port side. He said no warning whistles or signals were given by the Italian vessel, although the Yankee had been blowing her fog horn at regular intervals."

Although there isn't an overabundance of detail or eyewitness accounts concerning the Yankee's sinking, some of her exploits as a fish-producing wreck could fill a book! The Yankee is one of the more famous and accessible of the notorious 20 fathom wrecks that lie off the Island's south beach. Some of the others are the Linda and the Oregon, both of which have been covered in the Atlantic Wreck Series. Wrecks like the Tarantula, Burnside, Skippy, Catamount and the Irma C are also members of this elite club, but their low profiles make them difficult to find at times and they don't seem to attract the numbers and various species of fish as the first group.

The Yankee's proximity to the 20 fathom curve makes her an ideal fast food stop for many of the pelagic species of game fish that frequent our area. The wreck acts like a fish haven that both protects and feeds baitfish like finger mullet, anchovies, butterfish, etc., as well as the groundfish that normally inhabit the structure. This in turn attracts the sharks, marlin and tuna that visit the inshore waters on their migrations, since this location is a predictable link in the never-ending quest to get enough forage to continue to live yet another day.

I recall a number of years ago speaking to a fellow angler who had just returned from a day's trolling in the vicinity of the Yankee wreck. He claimed to have caught a good number of 25 to 50 lb. class yellowfin tuna from the wreck's shadows and this was in the middle of August. I wanted to believe him, but always had a nagging doubt of the veracity of his report, since the yellowfins are normally a deep water/offshore species of the tuna tribe. I had listened to stories of anglers catching bluefin and yellowfin tuna in the vicinity of the NA buoy's 100 foot depths, but these tales belonged with Fisherman staffer Matt Ahern's description of fishing as it once was yesteryear. Someone would always catch one of these fish as an accident nowadays, but gone were the times when all one had to do to load up on these speedsters was to take a short hop to the NA. So wouldn't you know it, this year is a banner season for inshore tuna fishing, with yellowfin tuna taking up residence for weeks on end around which wreck? You guessed it, at the Yankee! As of this writing (August 9th), yellowfins in the 400 to 100 lb. class have been causing havoc around the Yankee, as well as the Oregon, the San Diego and the Linda, all of which are wrecks located off of a neighboring fathom curve. I have personally witnessed acres of these tuna crashing finger mullet and butterfish with reckless abandon these past few weeks, and I've been lucky to get in on the action. Let's hope that this inshore tuna fishery is the start of a new trend. Besides the beefy yellowfins, you will also find other members of the scombroid clan around the Yankee. Among them skipjack tuna, bonito and false albacore. All of these fish will respond readily to both trolled feathers or other small lures, as well as bait and chum. If you opt to troll around the Yankee, you should establish a controlled pattern of coverage that will take you up to one mile on all sides of the wreck.

When considering a trip to the Yankee, don't overlook the possibility of setting up a shark drift near this structure. Last season this strategy paid off for me as I was fortunate enough to land a frisky 285 lb. mako shark on a drift that paralleled the 20 fathom curve to my south and the wreck to the north. We also had good action for the entire month of August last year with brown sharks, with four boats tagging at least 50 brownies during this time period.

The Yankee will also be productive for those anglers who desire a more sedate and predictable day's entertainment with the many species of groundfish that inhabit the wreck. There are cod to be had on this locale for many months of the year, even in the summer! I was in radio contact with an angler who had fished the Yankee the last week of July this year and he scored with a few medium sized cod, some blackfish and sea bass and then trolled a couple of bonito on the way home. Not a bad day's fishing for an inshore wreck. The fact that the Yankee is only a short skip from either Jones or Fire Island Inlets, makes this a popular waypoint for many boaters, even those with limited range or downsized craft.

In anticipation of a banner giant tuna season this fall in the Jersey Mud Hole, next week we're going to cruise to the west to this famous battleground to cover the tragic story of a World War II U-Boat victim: the wreck of the Arundo.

THE YANKEE
Vital Statistics

Date Sunk: June 12, 1919
Date Built: December 1, 1890 by Globe Iron Works, Cleveland
Length: 296.2 feet
Width: 40.4 feet
Displacement: 2,418 tons
Hull Construction: Steel
Hull Condition: Broken up, in at least two pieces.
Depth of Water: 120 feet
Depth Over Wreck: 100 feet
Lat/Lon Position: 40-28.08 N/73-13.40 W
Loran C Positon: 26609.5/43592.1

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Port	Distance (Nautical Miles)	Heading (Magnetic) To	From
Shinnecock Inlet	45.9	242°	062°
Moriches Inlet	33.5	233°	053°
Fire Island Inlet	17.8	180°	000°
Jones Inlet	21.7	145°	325°
Debs Inlet	28.3	135°	315°
Rockaway Inlet	35.0	124°	304°
Sandy Hook	37.0	116°	296°
Shark River Inlet	37.0	089°	269°
Manasquan Inlet	39.5	083°	263°

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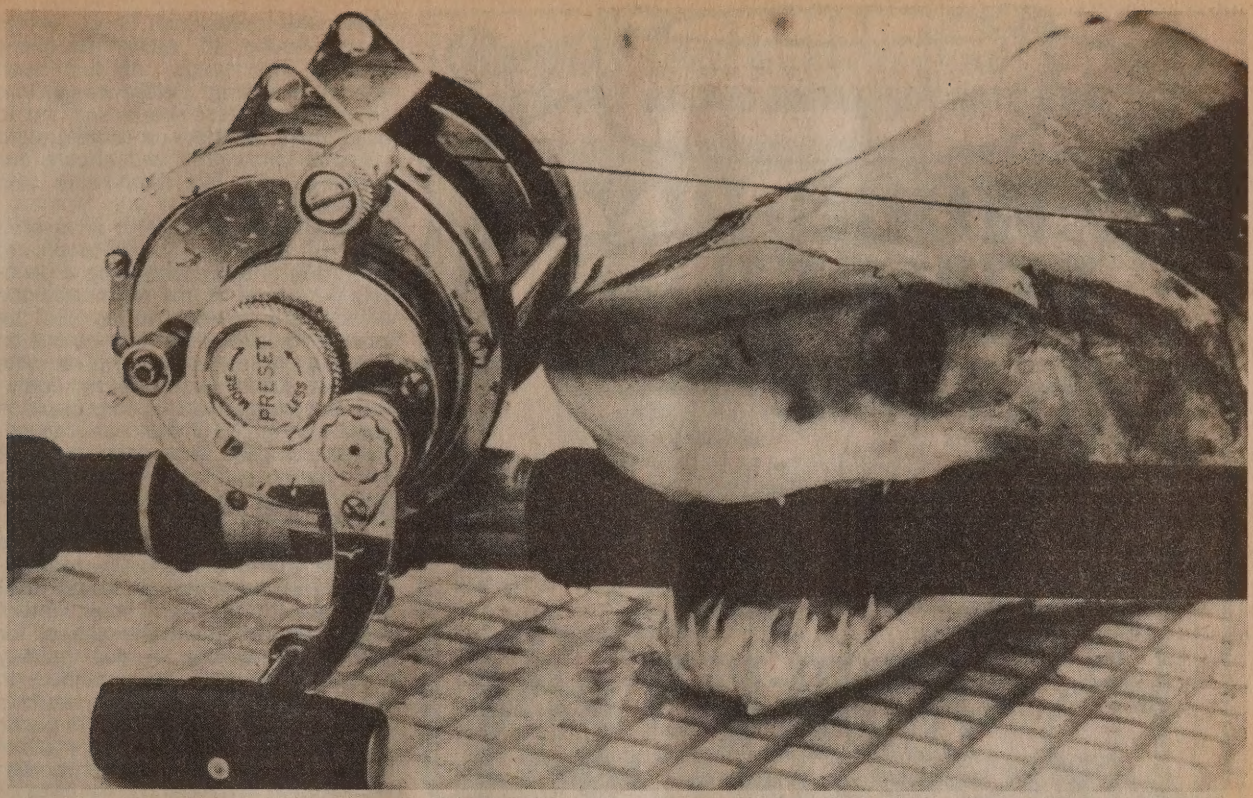

WEST END SHARKING

Part One — *by Capt. Pete Mikoleski*

The broad appeal of sharking, attracts scores of anglers from western south shore inlets.

The mako hanging from the bow cleat had gone to the well once too often. For the better part of a half hour he teased us by cruising in and out of our chum slick while we hand fed him bite sized chunks of bunker in-between our unsuccessful hookups. Four times he took a fresh mackerel fillet and managed to avoid the hook. I tried twice, NADA! My mate Phil took his best shot, ZIPPO! Our client Jim Kennan also tried his luck and came up empty. This time I threaded the bait up the shank of the 9/0 hook and embedded it twice, determined to make that fish feel the steel. While I was re-baiting that rig, the cobalt blue, torpedo-shaped fish amused itself by repeatedly bumping the other styrofoam float. When he got tired of that he promptly ate it, severing the 50 lb. test dacron line with his razor sharp dentures. As the booby trapped fillet drifted back into the slick, he sensed it and zeroed in for the kill, gliding effortlessly, jaws wide open. The gold reel glinted in the first patch of sunlight as the line began to disappear. The drag lever was nudged to the strike position. When the line came tight, I drove the hook home, it had **finally** found its mark! After a short but spectacular tail walking exhibition a scant few feet off the starboard beam, he turned and headed straight for the chum net. Before he had a chance to get at the chum, he felt the sharp sting of the flying gaff in his side. A few seconds later, a tail rope sealed his fate. Back at the dock, we realized that he came T-H-I-S C-L-O-S-E to getting away again. The 9/0 hook wasn't embedded in his jaw as we thought. I just managed to snag him in the cheek, just behind the jaws. So much for the theory behind sharp hooks!

Ten or fifteen years ago it was unusual to find a mid-size boat venturing far offshore and enjoying this kind of blue water action. Today with more and more affordable seaworthy center console and cabin boats being built for serious offshore work, the fleet of fully equipped mini-sportfisherman in growing rapidly. Given the right weather, these streamlined fishing platforms are designed to sprint offshore and give those big battlewagons a run for their money. If it wasn't for the demand and the rapid development of these gutsy hulls, thousands of anglers would be missing out on some heavy duty offshore fishing. Although sharks are considered to be "The Poor Man's Game Fish" by some, just ask anyone who's ever been hooked up to a high flying mako how worthy an adversary they can be! Granted, they are not ranked as high among the elite glamour species like the blue marlin and the giant tuna, but as yet they are still in good supply, easily available and much to the delight of the woman of the house, you don't have to trade up to, in the immortal words of Chief Brody, "A bigger boat!"

There are quite a few different species of sharks native to our Long Island waters. Blue sharks, brown sharks and duskies are by far the most common sharks; however, makos always get the ink. Hammerheads, tiger sharks and threshers are less common but do make limited appearances in our region, lounging around in the warm water eddies that break off from the Gulf Stream. Don't forget

(Continued on next page.)

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about the occasional Great White that's bound to make headlines whether it's caught or just seen window shopping. Before we get into where to find these sharks and how to catch them, let's set up some ground rules to follow that will ensure our offshore trips are both safe and enjoyable.

Basically any hull with an overall length of 20 feet or more is capable of venturing offshore providing a prudent skipper is at the helm and the crew has a healthy respect for the ocean. You shouldn't even be out on the bay unless you have all the required Coast Guard safety equipment on board and it is shipshape! A good working VHF radio and an adjusted compass is a must. A little hand-held portable VHF unit makes a good backup radio just in case. A Loran unit makes navigation a snap, but is listed as optional equipment as long as your dead reckoning navigational skills are up to par. Today most boats are equipped with some kind of a depthfinder which is essential for any kind of fishing. A dual battery system is highly recommended to keep cranking your engine and to power all those electronics. Single or twin engines? You can't deny the fact that more peace of mind comes with dual engine installations, yet today's V4, V6 and V8 engines are considered to be extremely reliable if kept in tip-top shape. The current trend is to mount a smaller 15 to 25 hp kicker on a stern bracket to ensure the reliability of a twin engine installation, at a much lower cost. It'll get you home in the event of an engine failure, though you'll probably be late for supper.

How far offshore is safe for your rig? That's simple enough. Under ideal conditions you can go as far offshore as your fuel supply allows. However, don't plan on running offshore until you've used up half your gas and expect to make it back to the dock with the other half. It just doesn't work that way. Chances are your trip back will be made under different circumstances, probably with some wind kicking up and possibly going against the current rather than with it. You have to allow yourself a safety margin of somewhere between 10 to 20 percent of your available fuel supply for your return trip. Add to the fact that you might be lucky enough to have to tow something big back to the dock and you can see why it's imperative to err on the PLUS side! Remember, free tows by the Coast Guard are a thing of the past. Commercial towing services have been known to ask for and clear your credit card numbers over the VHF **before** they come and get you!

Probably the most important factor determining whether or not you should go offshore at all is the weather. Don't press your luck. "If the weather forecast is in doubt, cancel out!" It's a long season. As the season wears on the sharks will still be there, probably even closer to

shore. Don't jeopardize life and limb for a fishing trip. There's always next week. Keep abreast of updated marine weather forecasts on your VHF from time to time and monitor the offshore weather patterns a couple of days before. You're looking for a "window" of stable weather patterns that will ensure calm seas. Ten to 15 MPH winds are okay, but 15 to 18 MPH is pushing it for a 20 footer. Anything above 20 MPH, double anchor and go flounder fishing in the bay. Winds out of the southern quarter are the worst. Beware of seemingly calm seas under blustery north winds. The seas will definitely pick up once you get beyond the lee of the south shore. High pressure systems are a good sign. A steady or rising barometer is a pretty safe indication of continued good weather. A falling barometer indicates a change in the weather and usually spells trouble. Playing it smart and being cautious is the best advice I can give you.

Exactly where and how far off you have to run for good shark water is open to debate among serious shark hunters. Most crews that have 30 foot hulls beneath them usually opt for fishing south of the HA buoy which is about 30 miles from shore. Lots of sharks are found between the HA and the remains of the Texas Tower. But don't despair, there are plenty of sharks prowling the waters closer to shore. But where? No secret really. Sharks are just like any other fish and usually follow the food supply. Determine what attracts the food and you'll find out where the action is. To keep it simple: fish over some bottom that has some shape to it. Avoid a flat boring piece of bottom like the plague. Look at the 15 and 20 fathom lines and pick an area on your chart that has some high spots, ridges, deep holes or fingers, as we like to call them. The reason you want to find these contours is that they cause an upwelling of underwater currents to develop which creates nutrient rich mixtures of water with higher salinity, which in turn increases the availability of marine microorganisms. This is the base for the development of the food chain that attracts bait fish which obviously lures larger predators, namely JAWS. Most would-be offshore anglers think very deep water is the key to finding good shark water and this is sometimes true, especially early in the season. But the reason behind this logic is that in May and June the deeper water is warmer than the shallower inshore waters. By July and August the inshore waters have warmed sufficiently enough to sustain a healthy population of sharks. Water temperatures in the high 60s and low 70s is good shark water in June and July, while the high 70s and above is considered the prime temperatures later on in August and September. That's why the stable weather and warm water temperatures of August definitely make it my favorite month for consistent inshore sharking.

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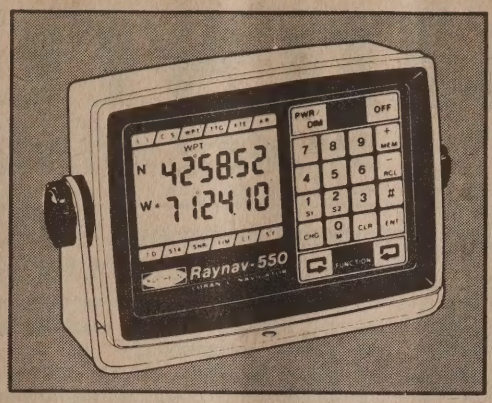

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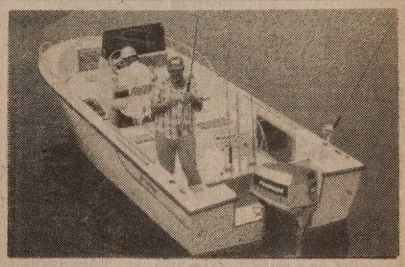

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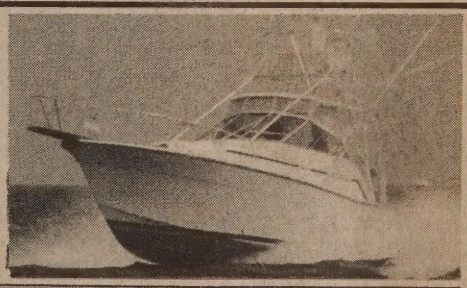

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HOOK TALK AND "KID STUFF"

by Matt Ahern

Mustad alone, manufactures over 50,000 styles of hooks. Which ones are right for you?

Wouldn't it be jim-dandy if one hook sufficed for all fish? How simple then the fisherman's task. All we'd need to say in the tackle shop is "Gimme a hook," instead of knowing the correct nomenclature if you want the hook of your choice.

Yet we sport fishermen who dunk bait should consider ourselves lucky, for actually we have only several important styles to remember. Look through any hook catalog; most carry enough of the various patterns to make your head spin. O. Mustad and Son of Oslo, Norway alone manufactures over 50,000 styles for fishermen in 130 countries!

For us fellows, only a few patterns are important and we'll discuss them in a minute. But before we do that, I just want to say that when laying in a supply of hooks, always buy the best. The best cost only pennies more than inferior grades. There are many imported hooks on the market and from my own experience and personal preference, none of these can stand up to those manufactured by Mustad. If your interest lies in American brands, don't overlook Eagle Claw and those put out by Pflueger. These, like the Mustads, have never let me down—which is something I can't say for some of those "Hong Kong" specials which often flood the market. Don't be penny wise and pound foolish.

Never, never hesitate to shell out those extra pennies for quality hooks. You'll never regret it. Don't forget; that ten cent hook is the connecting link between you and the fish. If it fails, so do you. The best rod, reel, and line are nothing more than aids in getting that hook where it will do the most good.

There are only eight types of hooks that local sinker bouncers consider important. In proper size, these hooks will catch any of the bottom dwellers we seek. But some will do it better than others. And this is of most importance. I'll give a quick rundown on these and then we'll get to individual fish.

Sproat. This is an old-timer and most fishermen have used it at one time or another. Personally, I don't believe there's a fish in the world which accepts bait that hasn't been caught on this hook. Highly dependable and excellent for most fish, ranging from soft-mouth flounder, to the leather-jawed cod.

Claw and Beak. These are extremely sharp strong hooks, designed for quick biting fish. The Claw type is quite popular and is also known as the Eagle Claw of American manufacture. The Beak style by Mustad, is similar in appearance. Fishermen find both to be excellent all-around hooks for fish with medium to large mouths. One word of caution here. Avoid those in the bait-holder pattern. They do present bait in an enticing manner, but should a fish be small, or if the hook is lodged in the gullet, you'll have the devil's own time removing it. I've seen instances where even the finest hook disgorder proved useless under these circumstances.

Carlisle. A long-shanked hook. This is the fluke fisherman's pet. It is thin enough to be used with most live bait, yet strong enough to hold a large fluke.

Limerick. Primarily the commercial codfisherman's hook and in its large sizes are often seen on trawls. This hook has an over-sized eye to accommodate the heavy trawl lines in use. A good hook for the sport fisherman and I've decked many a cod withem them.

O'Shaughnessy. A strong hook. Similar in appearance to the Sproat, but it is heavier and has a bit longer depth of bite. Fine for cod, but often takes a stiff rod to drive home.

Virginia. This is the blackfisherman's hook. Its sharp, offset hollow point and barb make for quick penetration. Can also be used for sea bass and porgies with good result.

These are the hook designs local sinker bouncers find most useful. Any of these hooks in the correct size will work on all our common bottom feeders; some, of course, will do a better job than others.

Following are the important fish sought by most bottom fishermen.

Blackfish: Because of the black's peculiar method of biting, the Virginia hook is the one to use whenever possible. Use a #5 or #6 inshore; #5 for average offshore fishing and either a #2 or #3 for those areas known to harbor large fish. When using Sproats, a 1/0 is good for inshore, and 2/0 or 3/0 for offshore. This also applies when using Claw or Beak hooks.

Cod: Sproat hooks in sizes 6/0 to 8/0 are most popular. Claw and Beak hooks, 6/0, also work well. When using Limericks, I've had good results with a 5/0. In the O'shaughnessy pattern, you'll find 6/0 okay.

Flounder: Chestertown, also known as the flounder hook, in sizes 9 or 10 are best. These are long-shanked because of the difficulty sometimes encountered in hook removal. Incidentally, there are available Chestertown hooks with regular shanks. If you can locate them, my advice is to give them a try. I've always found them to produce better than the longer shanks. Another good flounder hook is the #6 regular-shank Sproat. This is an extremely light hook that takes little or no effort to set. I've been using them for over 60 years and would never change.

Fluke: As noted before, the Carlisle style does its job well. This is a long-shanked hook and is used to avoid contact with the fluke's sharp teeth. A 2/0 to 5/0 seem most popular. Sproat hooks, however, are gaining in popularity. This is because more and more fishermen are realizing that this lighter, regular-shanked hook allows more action of the baitfish. These can 1/0 to 4/0. Often when fluke are finicky, the smaller 1/0 will work wonders.

Porgy: For this rapid fire fish, you'll find a #6 Sproat or a #8 Virginia putting fish in the bucket when fishing inshore waters, especially when the fish are under one pound. For average sized sea porgies, a 1/0 Sproat, or a #5 or #6 Virginia do the trick. For those outsized humpbacks, use either a Sproat 2/0 or a Virginia #4.

Sea Bass: You'll find a 4/0 Sproat just what the doctor ordered for these large mouth fish. But any regular-shanked hook in similar size will produce.

I have purposely left out two fish and one hook. Ling and whiting (which any medium sized hook will catch) and the "new" wide-gap hook types. I have never used these; therefore, I believe I should refrain from comment. Many readers write and tell me they swear by them—others say they swear at them. I suppose it is just a matter of using what works and

sticking with it.

I suggest you make a list of those fish which appeal and visit your local tackle shop and lay in a supply (or send off by mail order). Ask for your hooks by number and style. Don't, for instance, just ask for porgy or sea bass hooks. The tackle dealer's ideas on hooks for these fish may possibly be different than those stated.

Now to change the subject matter just a bit.

In the 70-odd years I've trod this planet, I can attest a simple truth: the Good Lord does move in mysterious ways.

Here's why I say that. Recently, I was asking myself how I could go about helping more youngsters partake of The Fisherman's very important "Send A Kid Fishing" program (which, incidentally, is doing wonderful things for children). I figured there should be more for me to do besides sending in a yearly contribution. There just had to be a way. Surely, you and I know there are multitudes of kids out there who are desperate to go fishing, but they have about the same chance of doing so as does a snowball's survival in the July sun.

What could one guy do that had not already been done?

Well, anyway, I mulled it for a spell. Then, a few days after I'd selected and rejected several ideas, of which were none too bright, the door opened.

Mr. Ronald Setnikar of Mastic had the key. Unknowingly, of course. Mr. Setnikar sent me several boxes of old, unused loose hooks (100 to the box), telling me that they had belonged to his father. "I don't want to see them go to waste," Mr. Setnikar wrote. And wonder of wonders, these hooks were the same type I used 60 years ago.

These old-time hooks have no ringed eyes as do those in use today, but instead have the upper part of their shanks flattened. This feature made it easy for us to wrap our tarred snoods tightly.

Mr. Setnikar sent along two hook styles: #4 and #5 Mustad-Virginia blackfish hooks and long-shanked 3/0 Mustad-Carlisles, which many fishermen used for fluke in those long gone days. The fluke hooks have no flattened shank, but instead are serrated along the upper quarter of their length, which was a distinct aid when wrapping the "cat gut" snell tight to prevent loss.

Both types are not only in excellent condition, but they are truly antique, perhaps one might even say they are collector's items. Each can still be used for fishing, but I believe they would be better employed as keepsakes.

Now. If you would like one (or more) of these mementoes of fishing days gone by, the kind of hook that helped many of us old-timers deck those teen-sized blackfish and doormat fluke in the long ago, it will cost but a mere pittance. (Read on—I'm not selling anything.)

Here's what you do. Send a **stamped, self-addressed** envelope to my home at 39 King Street, Hampton Bays, NY 11946-2220. **Not** to the office. (The hooks are not available there.) Enclose a dollar bill for each hook and state your preference: the #4 or #5 Virginia, or the 3/0 Carlisle fluke hook. I will forward any and all hook money to The Fisherman's "Send A Kid Fishing" program.

Let us make sure some youngster gets at the finer things in life. Let's be sure some disenchanted child gets an opportunity to go fishing in the near future. Let us give some youngster a fishing trip that may indeed change his or her entire life!

I shall continue to send the hooks until the supply is exhausted. All money received too late to help will be returned to you in the next morning's mail. If the supply of a requested type is no longer available, I will send a substitute—unless you wish me not to.

A dollar bill by itself means little today, but in the company of its brothers and sisters they will work to put joy and sunshine in the heart of a child who deserves more than a fast shuffle.

As I said, the Good Lord moves in mysterious ways, and perhaps this is one of them. I like to think it is.

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GRADY-WHITE

SOUND APPROACH TO JIGGING BLUES

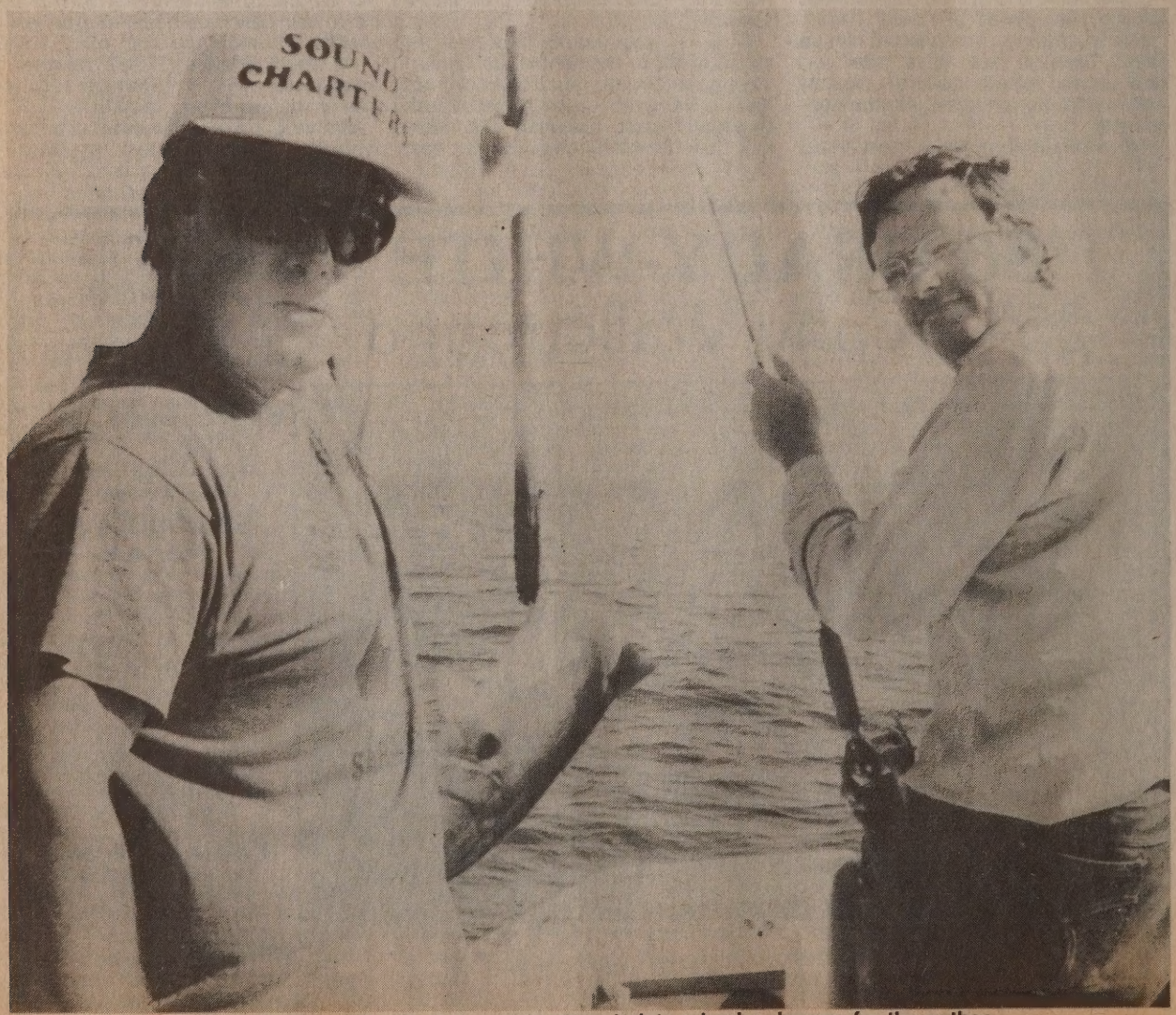
by Brian Mulholland

The author rediscovers some of the joys of using light tackle while chasing Long Island Sound blues.

Most inshore fishing is done with heavier tackle than the fish really need. Rods and reels are chosen for the presentation of a bait or lure under particular circumstances, rather than for the fighting power of the fish. Party boat anglers may need to muscle fish up in a hurry to avoid tangles. Bottom fishermen have to choose their equipment to handle a half pound of lead, and use heavy line to cope with line-fraying obstructions. The tackle used in these situations is more than most of the fish can stand.

It's a pleasantly novel experience, if you're used to substantial tackle, to take fish in circumstances that permit lighter equipment. I do most of my fishing from party boats, or from the surf line. Lately I've been scaling back the surf tackle to 12 pound line, but the party boat tackle is still pretty muscular. The only lighter tackle I regularly use is a spinning outfit for inshore weakfishing in the spring.

I was reminded of this during a recent trip on Long Island Sound aboard Capt. John Alberda's "TJ," a 23 foot Sea Craft operated under the name "Sound Charters."



Captain John Alberda of Sound Charters hoists a husky chopper for the author.

Engaging bluefish or weaks from a small boat with only a couple of other people aboard is a wonderful experience. While 12 pound line on a party boat would invite tangles even with fairly small bluefish, it's made to order for the small boatman. It also makes it possible to play with small tin squids and plugs, especially poppers, that would not be practical in a crowded setting.

There are also some occasions when a small boat can find fish where a larger boat cannot. Bluefish can be sensitive to boat noise even when they are not showing on the surface, and so can other species. A small boat can make repeated drifts over a small reef or dropoff more quickly than a large one. It can also operate in shallow water, which helps a lot if the fish are tight against a shoreline.

The North Shore outing was educational. I'd brought my own equipment because boat rental rods are usually poor casting tools. However, the jigging gear was good quality, so I wound up using it anyway. The outfits consisted of Sabre blanks and Penn Mag 10 reels with 17 pound line. The rods were rated for 10 to 25 pound line.

The day started early enough so we were into bluefish in 40 feet of water off Sunken Meadow by 7:15 AM or so. For the next three hours, the bluefish were up and down all around us. There were a lot of fish and they were actively feeding, but the day was very bright. An unclouded July sun and a glass calm Sound encouraged the fish to be a little skittish. They'd surface, we'd approach and pick a few and then the fish would be gone. Not a weakfish was to be seen, either on paper or in the cooler.

I build most of my own rods and have fairly strong preferences in what I like. I prefer a fairly stiff rod. The day's fishing aboard the "TJ" may force a change in this opinion. The Sabre blanks were short, 6 foot blanks rated for 10 to 25 pound line, and have the fast action for which the brand is well known. But neither I nor the wife had any particular difficulty in setting the hook on the bluefish that day. The rod's extreme flexibility was an asset when the bluefish were at boatside; it helped avoid a slack line during those awkward moments just before you lift the fish over the rail. A longer and more rigid blank might have been a bit less useful in maneuvering the fish at close range. Most of the fish that day were 3 or 4 pound specimens, but on a couple of occasions we found small groups of bigger fish. I took an 8 pound fish from one of these latter schools. The bluefish doubled the Sabre blank into a perfect inverted U several times before being boated. The rod's limberness makes it easy to crank the fish in and keep some tension on the line, as opposed to pumping the rod. I may build a rod or two on this blank.

The Mag 10 was a pleasant surprise, too. I hadn't had previous occasion to use one, but it seems ideally sized and suited for North Shore bluefishing. It's small enough to be controlled by small hands, the level wind eases line distribution problems for novices and the simple magnetic arrangement made the reel resistant to overruns while jigging. It casts nicely with the 2 oz. jigs we were using, but it's reel (ha) virtues were convenience and good quality in a small package. It worked so well that I'm surprised that I haven't seen these reels in wider use.

Being in a small boat made the morning productive. A larger hull would have had a difficult time finding the action we enjoyed (about 75 fish) because the fish were so skittish. It's a lot easier to crank up an outboard and pursue bluefish 200 yards away with a small boat than it is with a larger boat. Hot, calm days are not rare on the Sound during the summer, and the fish are generally boat shy under these conditions.

Aggressive casting, including overhand casts, is practiced on small boats and even on small charter craft under most circumstances. It's the captain's job to decide how lively his fares can get and you fish by the house rules; no casting if he says so. But it's sometimes easier to cast overhand, especially when you're so close to the water line.

Much of the sport this day would have been missed without a fish finder. The bigger fish didn't show on the surface at all, just the smaller ones. The kind that print on paper are generally a little easier to read than flashers, and give you the option of mapping out bottom contours or structure of particular interest. A VHF is almost as useful; Captain Alberda exchanged information steadily with other captains through the course of the day.

The bluefish that day displayed typical behavior of nervous game fish. When we drifted into a school, or when we accidentally passed over one school ourselves, the fish would re-form behind us—but only momentarily. There'd be a quick volley of single splashes in the wake; then the fish were gone. It's as though the bluefish finished out whatever particular attack they were engaged in when they became aware of the boat, but then immediately scattered. They were still aggressive and re-formed each time within a few hundred yards of the boat. I saw a tern disappear in a large splash at the surface just after grabbing something himself. The tern went under and didn't come up; I haven't seen that happen before.

Party boats are too convenient and useful to be foresaken, but it's nice to break out of your old habit now and then. Taking bluefish on light tackle is plenty of fun and it's really only practical to do so when fishing from a sportfisherman or smaller open boat. Even those anglers whose habits are firmly set on open boat trips might consider springing for the extra bucks for a taste of this small boat chartering. I doubt you'll regret it!

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TUNA ON THE LIGHT SIDE

by Al Ristori

Everyone comes up a winner in this tuna game.

Now that school tuna fishing is upon us, we often find ourselves faced with an abundance of riches. When they're biting at all, it's often a real blitz. Then, after every nook and cranny of the boat is stuffed with fish, the anglers who have been wrenching them in on heavy tackle start wondering what to do with them.

As noted in a previous article, the best bet is to release tuna excess to your needs—and, preferably, tag them. Free tags are available by writing to Ed Scott, Cooperative Game Fishing Tagging Program, NOAA/NMFS, Miami Laboratory, 75 Virginia Beach Dr., Miami, FL 33149.

Another alternative is to limit your catch by using lighter tackle. By doing so you'll hook up even better and really earn each fish after a long battle. Furthermore, you may surprise yourself about just what can be accomplished with light tackle.

On my Mako 25 charter boat, Sheri Berri, at Montauk, I've usually started customers out with 50 pound gear. Once they've got a fish or two to ensure a successful day, we break out progressively lighter tackle. Almost invariably, when they pick up a small reel filled with too little 20 or 30 pound test mono the first hook-up will be of a much bigger fish. On two trips in a row we caught 80 pounders that almost stripped those reels. On the first, we threw the ball and had the tuna in a half-hour. The angler turned the second one just as I was getting ready to throw the ball and he must have regretted that because it was 2¼ hours before the tuna was subdued.

That latter bluefin was on a long rod, which was why it took so long. The arrival of West Coast stand-up rods that are only 5½ feet long has made this fishing so much easier that it's almost not fair to the fish. Not only is more pressure applied to the tuna, but the angler doesn't get worn out—which is the main reason for those long fights.

In order to make a sporting proposition of school tuna fishing, just drop down to light tackle. I recently fished in Bermuda, where the yellowfin tuna is king. Though they have lots of yellowfin, most are only in the 20 to 40 pound class—and the Bermudians have scaled down their tackle to compensate. Twenty pound gear is considered heavy and 12 pound is standard.

Surprisingly, they do quite well with that gear, even boating 80 pounders on occasion. Furthermore, the practice in Bermuda is to anchor on the edge of a steep dropoff in about 70 fathoms, not a mere 25 fathoms as is generally the case locally. To top it off, they rarely ever drop off the ball to fight a big fish on light tackle.

Despite the handicaps involved, this fishing isn't as difficult as it first seems. After catching a bunch of yellowfins to about 35 pounds on a 5½ foot Sabre Californian with Shimano Triton TLD-15 small lever drag reel and 25 lb. mono, I borrowed one of their 12 pound outfits and caught four more up to 36 lbs. The only problem was the long trolling rod that made it uncomfortable even with the light pressure exerted with 12. However, I wasn't on any of the tuna for very long and one 25 pounder came aboard within a couple of minutes.

On another day, one of the local anglers fishing with me hooked up on 8 pound and fought a yellowfin of almost 30 lbs. for half an hour or so. He had to walk all around the 42 footer, but was successful. Tackle much lighter than that is a super challenge, but it can be done. At present, the 2 and 4 pound categories are vacant for bluefin tuna. The 8 pound title belongs to Capt. Chuck Mallinson of the Joy-Sea at Montauk with a 39 lber. That's a fine catch, but the yellowfin I saw caught in Bermuda on 8 lb. from an anchored boat wasn't that much smaller. The 12 lb. IGFA mark is 68 lbs., and was caught at Montauk by Capt. Packy Collins on September 13, 1983. Steve Sloan owns both the 16 and 20 pound marks. The former is going to be hard to beat at 188 lbs., but the latter is up for grabs at only 119 lbs. The 30 pound men's standard is also within reach when the mediums are around as it's only 216 lbs., set off Ocean City, Maryland in 1977.

The women's records are even easier to break. Once again, the 2 and 4 pound categories are open. The 8 pound mark is actually a touch higher than the men's at 41½ lbs., but the 12 pound standard is only a bit bigger at 49 lbs. The latter was caught by Lynnette Pintauro at Montauk last August. The women's 16 pound record is very attainable at 54½ lbs., while it's just 93 lbs. on 20 pound and

An increasing number of anglers are taking advantage of the ultimate light tackle sport provided by tuna.

117½ lbs. on 30 pound.

When the big October run around the Bacardi was going on last year, I joined Florida anglers Bob and Ruth Stoky of Plantation Key, and Alex MacGrath of San Francisco on a trip out there aboard the Compass Rose VI, owned by Jesse York of Atlantic Beach. These light tackle specialists were set on breaking records, with MacGrath being most interested in the fly rod categories.

Unfortunately, we had some engine trouble that had to be cleared up before we left—and then we heard reports of unusually slow fishing as we approached a fleet of 18 boats. It wasn't any slaughter, but we had hits in the slick within a half hour and Ruth hooked up on the 16 pound. Sid Alter threw the anchor ball and we followed the fish, though I suspected she only had a large little tunny (false albacore) on, since the runs weren't any longer than what I'd expect on heavier tackle. Within 20 minutes the fish was gaffed, and it turned out to be a bit over 50 pounds—just short of the women's mark.

Ruth was discouraged by that close miss, so she decided to drop down to 12 pound. We didn't know then that Lynnette Pintauro had pushed the record up from 40½ to 49 lbs., but the same fish Ruth had already boated on 16 pound would have been big enough in any case. Unfortunately, Ruth had some bad luck on a couple of hook-ups with the lighter gear and lost both fish. In the meantime, Bob Stoky took over the 16 pound rig and fought a bluefin from anchor for 20 minutes that turned out to be 68 pounds—plenty big enough to shatter the women's mark, but far short of the men's standard.

This wasn't one of those days when the tuna would appear in the slick and provide an ideal opportunity for the fly rod. With a sinking line, a fly could be fished blind. However, the best bet is to spot the fish and work the fly accordingly. Mac Grath never got a shot at what are rather easy fly rod marks for bluefins. The 2 and 4 pound tippets are open, while Steve Sloan has the 8 pound with a 14 pound bluefin; the 12 pound with a 16 lber., and the 16 pound with one of only 9½ lbs. A saltwater fly rod outfit is a real killer and large fish can be landed by experts. Contrast those bluefin records with those established by Jim Lopez on yellowfin in Bermuda: 67½ lbs. on 12 pound and 81 lbs. on 16 pound!

Though our short stay at the Bacardi didn't result in a record, and a trip with Captain Oscar Amoruso on the Marlin was blown out the next day, I'm sure the Stoky's and Mac Grath will be back to rewrite the bluefin record book this year. In the meantime, they may have considerably higher marks to shoot at if anglers make the best of a great resources and enjoy them on light tackle instead of just loading up the fish box and then wondering what to do with the excess.

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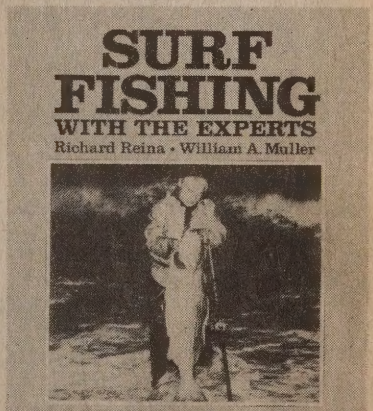
By Richard Reina And William A. Muller



Finally, a surf book that lays bare all the nitty gritty secrets that help to explain why ten percent of the fishermen catch 90% of the fish! Although this book was authored mainly by Long Island Surf fishermen, there's much more to this book than a discussion of Long Island Surf fishing. Do you like to fish the beaches at Cape Cod, or have you dreamed of fishing there? Well then, this book has just what you need; a chapter devoted to the hows, whys, and whens or Cape Cod surf fishing by Frank Daignault. Perhaps Montauk is the spot that makes your blood boil. Yes, there's a chapter especially about this famous surf fishing spot too, authored by Fred Schwab whose been a "regular" there for about twenty years. The book is loaded with how-to chapters about gear you'll need to get started, casting techniques, the effect of winds, tides, and moon phases on surf fishing, how to use artificials and when, bait rigs and baitfishing techniques, as well as informative chapters about the history of surf fishing, how to start a surf fishing club, and how to successfully release fish. All of these chapters and more cover information and techniques that work on all beaches. This surf fishing book offers another bonus. Although a lot of attention is given to fishing for bass, blues, and weaks, there are also sections on surf fishing for fluke, flounder, blackfish (tautog), mackerel, whiting, kingfish, and porgies (scup). Most surf fishing books ignore these species, but not this book, because we know how many surf fishermen like to catch these fish for fun and the table. And ladies, we haven't forgotten you either, More and more women are enjoying surf fishing. We asked Joyce Daignault to write a chapter on this facet of the sport since she's spent many hours in the suds on many beaches. Her comments are provocative but right on target. There's more too, but discover it for yourself, such as illustrations by Fred Guardineer. L.I.F. Publishing, 252 pages, photos and illustrations.

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KILLIES: A MOST UNDERESTIMATED BAIT

by Dick Mermon

If you thought these humble baitfish were meant only for fluke, then think again!

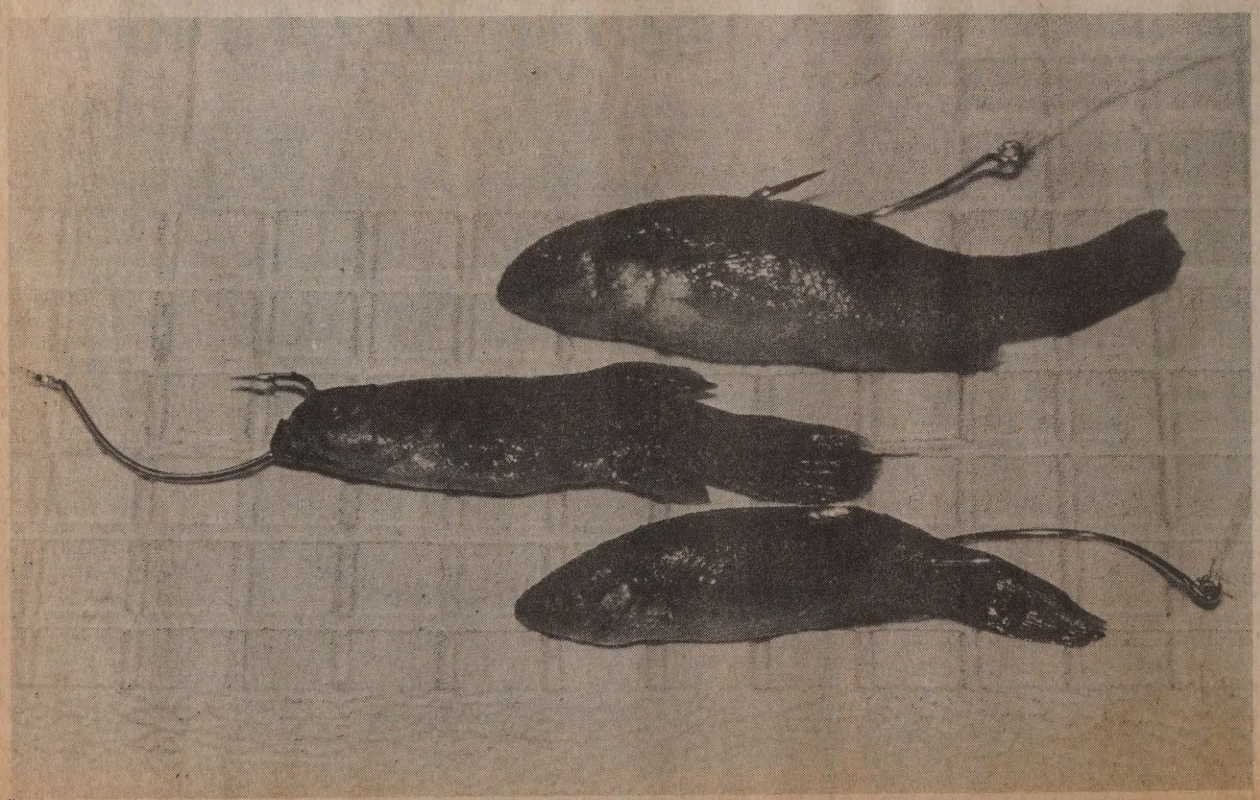
Mother Nature, in her infinite structure to support all the nomadic saltwater species with one type of forage or another, designates specific times and locations where such prey meet their doom. Predators follow their prey and on occasions, when man becomes too knowledgeable, Nature will hide a variety of baitfish for a period of time. However, killiefish are permanent residents of Long Island's south shore bays. They are the only non-migrant baitfish in this area and yearly wait for the carnivorous species to arrive.

Killiefish are often taken for granted and most fishermen seek their help only during fluke season, never considering them as a "hot number" for other game species. Nevertheless, these vest pocket baits are praise-worthy for summer flounder, but should be analyzed for alternate schemes. They do work.

One well-disposed technique of mine is to utilize killies for offshore angling, especially bluefishing. A live bait is a live bait and a monster blue never has refused such a prime target as a swaggering killie. Cholera Bank bluefish, particularly the mammoth size marauders are usually found close to the bottom where they forage in pursuit of deep dwelling prey such as small bergalls. An oversized killie, bounced along the bottom will always be found by one of these voracious feeders.

Early season shark anglers will find killiefish excellent enticements for pot-bellied blues that destroy costly mackerel baits intended for toothier monsters. Furthermore, as the season progresses, a brisk killie can often become the meal for other gamesters which meander into a chum slick. Hammerheads delight in the sight of any motivated bait, especially during periods of high water temperature. At such time, these so-called "moby-no-see-'ums" are as finicky a feeder as Morris the cat and will dine upon a live bait when offered.

Oceanic gamesters have probably never come in contact with this type of prey and as tiny as a killie may be to the human eye, a live meal is a live meal to a predator. Killies and offshore fishing became a reality to me several years ago while fishing aboard Capt. Sig Signorelli's "Four Sea Sons." Being a light tackle enthusiast and since there were shark baits set out at the stern (50 class outfits), I decided to launch my killie modus operandi from the boat's bow. Rigged with a 7 foot popping rod and a wide spool bait casting reel holding 200 yards of 17 pound test mono, I proceeded to drift a big, fat killiefish out. As the bait swam randomly away from the boat, my vision caught



A few of the more popular methods of hooking killies.

motion below in the gin clear water and immediately recognized the flash as a yellowfin tuna. Being unprepared for these gamesters, I began reeling the killie back, fast. In an instant, the killiefish was engulfed by a tremendous whirlpool and the reel screamed in agony. In a matter of seconds, the line emptied from the spool, leaving me with a blistered thumb and hurt pride, but it was the beginning of an education.

That fall, bluefin tuna from 50 to 100 pounds frequented the northern area of the Mud Hole. They had been feeding on tiny (2 inches in length) butterfish and an occasional ling or whiting from the bottom, but these were few and far between. Even the draggers had difficulty in finding the bottom dwellers. Adding to the dilemma was the clarity of the water, for the fish were now line shy. Consequently, 20 and 30 pound test line had to be employed. It was at this time the technique of using the bay's most abundant baitfish, "the killie," was perfected.

After anchoring on the Mud Hole's northern ledge, ground bunker chum was ladled out to produce the subterranean attractor of the tuna. In addition, about every 10 minutes, I tossed a handful of various size killies overboard to mix with the tiny particles of bunker chum. The killies, caught in the sudden current, drifted away from the boat, re-adjusted themselves to their new environment, then returned to the boat's stern and congregated there, fighting the tidal wake in mass confusion. Infrequently, the current flow would catch one or two of the active baits and they would vanish from the group. This type movement by the killies lasted for over an hour when suddenly, the baitfish showed themselves on the surface a slight distance away in a frantic effort to escape something below. Each and every one of those swimmers skitted and leaped from the water and as they did, they were greeted by a tremendous volume of boiled water. The lively activity of the killies drew the tuna to the boat and they were feeding on them. Immediately, I baited a 20 pound test spinning rod and a 30 pound class outfit with the largest, most zealous killie available. After tossing in several handfuls of free-swimming mini-baits to keep the tuna interested, my son Rich and I live-lined our hooked offerings in wit the others. Twenty feet from the boat, both baits were struck and the fight was on—he on the conventional rod and I on the spinning tackle. If you are looking for true sport, try tuna fishing with spinning tackle, but carry extra line, or additional spare spools for the reel. Although both fish were lost during the heat of battle, the method proved successful and held that way, for we did hook up with several other fish and managed to land one 70 pounder before the tuna retreated.

Killies are not that difficult to keep alive; in fact, they are the easiest of any baits to maintain activeness. Although it is best to retain them in a live bait tank with circulating aeration system, they can be transported without the use of saltwater, or even no water at all. These baitfish are endowed with a gill system that requires little moisture, but the secret to their survival is the combination of cool temperature and little saltwater.

To convey sufficient amounts of killies for a number of fishing hours, all one requires is a cooler of ice and the bait placed atop of it. However, care must be taken not to allow the killies to become contaminated with melted ice water, this will kill the baits quickly. Ice water lacks oxygen and the salinity of bay water from where they originated. Killies should always be maintained in a separate container or plastic bag and then placed onto the ice, but partitioned from it with newspapers or cardboard. Cold temperatures do not preserve the killies as one would expect, but places them into a dormant state, semi-active until they re-enter the warm ocean water. At such time the tiny baits become rejuvenated from their lethargic state and will swim with vigor.

A live killie could be the answer when bluefins are seen bumping floating Sargasso grass. They are not merely playing with the surface weed but do so to chase the toy size bait from the grass and feed upon them. The killie technique has possibilities even with yellowfin tuna when they chase miniature sized butterfish or anchovies. If it worked once, it will work again if presented properly at the right time.

To quote an old cliche, "nothing ventured, nothing gained," and it may just turn last season's failure into this season's success.

Rich Mermon hefts a slammer blue and shows the regurgitated killie that the big blue picked from a chum slick.

THE FISHERMAN QUIZ

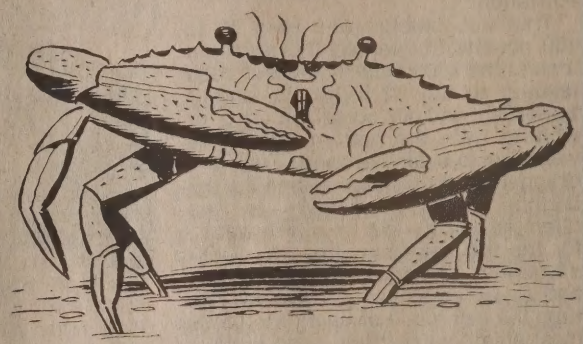
(1) **THERE ARE 250** DIFFERENT SPECIES OF SHARKS INCLUDING A MAN-EATING FRESHWATER SPECIES. IT IS FOUND IN ...

LAKE RONKONKOMA ☐
LAKE NICARAGUA ☐
LAKE TANGANYIKA ☐
LAKE OKEECHOBEE ☐

ANSWERS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE.

(2) **BLUE CLAW CRABS** CAUGHT IN THE SUMMER, WINTER OVER VERY WELL IN A FISH TANK, BUT THEY SHOULD BE KEPT BY THEMSELVES.

YES ☐ NO ☐



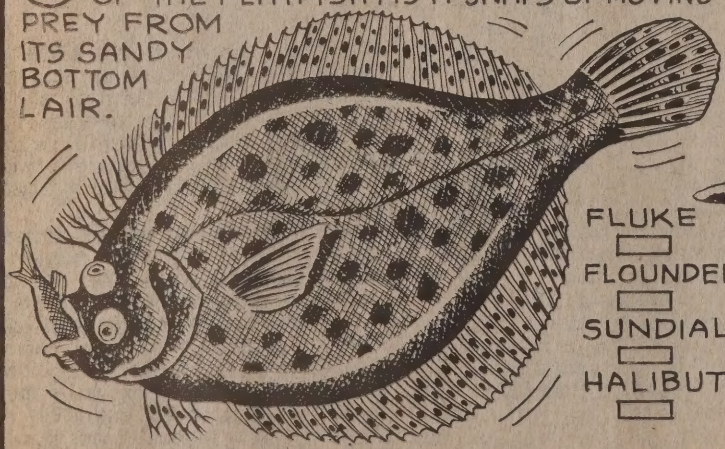
BY FRED GUARDINEER

(3) **WOODCHUCKS** ARE BUSY DURING THE SUMMER STORING FOOD UNDERGROUND FOR THE WINTER.

TRUE ☐ FALSE ☐

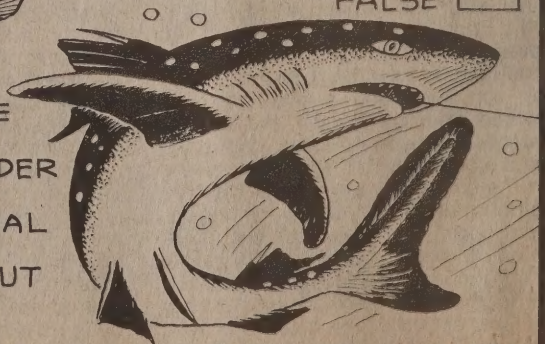
(4) **MORE AMERICANS** GO FISHING EVERY YEAR THAN ATTEND ANY MAJOR SPECTATOR SPORT INCLUDING MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL. THE NUMBERS ARE... 50 MILLION ☐
60 MILLION ☐
70 MILLION ☐

(5) **THIS SPECIES** IS THE MOST AGGRESSIVE OF THE FLATFISH AS IT SNAPS UP MOVING PREY FROM ITS SANDY BOTTOM LAIR.



FLUKE ☐
FLOUNDER ☐
SUNDIAL ☐
HALIBUT ☐

(6) **SPINEY DOGFISH**, WHICH ARE OFTEN CAUGHT IN GREAT NUMBERS DURING THE CODFISH SEASON HAVE NO FOOD VALUE... TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐



1 - LAKE NICARAGUA. 2 - YES. THEY ARE TOO VICIOUS TO BE KEPT IN A MIXED TANK. 3 - FALSE. THEY SPEND THE WINTER IN HIBERNATION. 4 - 60 MILLION. 5 - SUNDIAL. 6 - FALSE. THEY ARE A VERY POPULAR FOOD FISH EVERY WHERE EXCEPT IN THE U.S.A.

SWIM A SNAPPER IN THE SURF

by Herb Buch

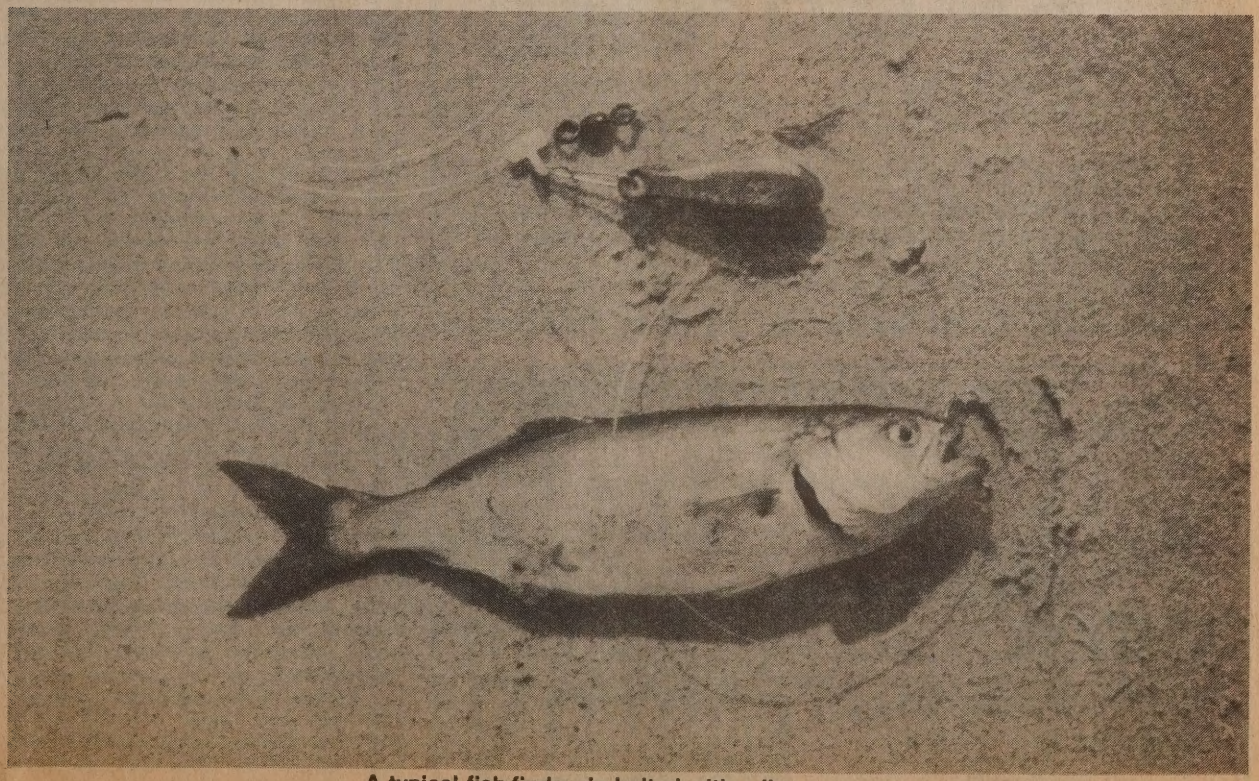
When we talk about snappers, our first thought is about how good they are on the table. Big blues can be strong medicine, but a mess of snappers is welcome any time. Our second thought is about how much fun it is to watch a bobber as one of those miniature choppers tries to slice the bait away from the hook. At other times we long for the fast action which they supply on light rods when you are casting small tins. It seems that every angler enjoys snappers, so do weakfish, especially the big tiderunners.

At one time the fall surf would feature school after school of migrating mullet and bunker. There are still some around, but they are scarce by standards of past years. One small fish still swarms out of the bays in tremendous numbers each fall, and that one is the snapper. Their abundance would make them a target of the weakfish even if they did not taste good, but we know that they do. The tiderunners seem to love them and when they are easy to catch from shore, they are a much more available live or fresh bait than mullet or bunker (except under unusual local conditions of abundance). As the days shorten, the snapper population of our bays begins to move into the inlets, and finally out along the open beaches. For obvious reasons, that is also the time when the inlets and surf play host to our most popular game fish. Now is the time to swim a snapper for a weakfish.

Tiderunner weakfish enter our bays in May for the purpose of breeding. Before the gill netters and other commercials began to concentrate on them we had some great fishing from the sod banks. There were also large numbers of young weaks running with the snapper blues in September. As netting increased, sport catches decreased, as did the large numbers of young that had been so conspicuous in catches of snappers. The minimum size limit on weaks came about after the small ones disappeared. There are still tiderunners around. They probably spawn in areas not accessible to netters. We hope that some day our legislators will deal with the gill netting problem. Your best chance of catching a big fish occurs during the snapper run.

Snappers begin to swarm into the inlets in late August. Their numbers and individual size increase in September as they decimate the population of small bait. By October they are slowly migrating along the beaches until a storm causes their mass evacuation. While these baby blues are harassing the small bait, the weaks are doing the same thing to them. During the years of abundance, many snappers exhibited twin slashes on their sides. These were caused by the two fang-like teeth found in the mouth of the weak. Obviously, many snappers escaped those voracious feeders by means of their violent gyrations. Weaks do not try to swallow a snapper at the moment when they first grasp it between their jaws. They seem to swim away with the smaller fish until its struggles become weaker, before they release the initial grip to turn and swallow it. This explains our technique for

(Continued on next page.)



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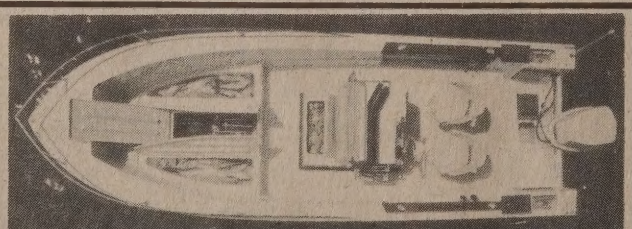

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hooking weaks when small live fish are the bait.

You want a live bait to look as natural as possible. You also want the weakfish to be able to swim off with that bait without a lot of resistance, or it may release the snapper before attempting to swallow it. A fish finder rig is perfect for this type of fishing. Thread the end of your line through a nylon fish finder slide, and knot it to a small swivel. Knot two to three feet of 30 lb. test mono to the swivel, and then attach your hook at the other end. My preference in hooks is a dull bronze colored Eagle Claw of 2/0 to 4/0 depending upon the size of the bait. To the loop of the slide I like to attach a DuoLock snap that is just large enough to hold the heaviest sinker which might be needed. The snap allows me to change weights as the tidal flow increases or decreases. When using a fish finder rig it is always preferable to attach the lightest sinker which will hold the bait in position. Even with this rig, a taker will feel some resistance as it begins to move away with the bait.

The game begins when you catch some snappers on a small metal spoon, using a freshwater spinning outfit. At times it seems as though you can catch a few anywhere that you try. If it is that kind of day, catch one where you want to fish, hook it through both lips, and gently cast it out into your favorite area. If snappers are scarce you will have to spend some time hunting them. Inlets are usually productive, especially near jetties, piers, sand bars, or any concentrations of small bait.

Unless you always find snappers available, a bucket is necessary to keep a few of them alive until you need them. If you care to invest, a small battery operated aerator will help to keep the bait in good condition. If not, keep the pail in the shade of a vehicle and change the water frequently. At best, I have found that 3 or 4 snappers are about the most that you can maintain without adding oxygen. The air temperature, and the care with which you handle the bait are all important. Some snappers may be hooked deeply. Do not put a bleeding fish in with the healthy ones; put those into your cooler to use if live bait is not available. There are days when a whole dead bait, or a chunk, or fillet, will take fish.

Because of their amazing vitality, snappers are not usually chopped up by their brethren. That, however, does not mean that bluefish will not take them. However, if you try to use mullet or other small fish during the snapper run, it is not unusual to have them eat the bait right down to the hook. Crabs may be an occasional problem, but a cork on the leader will usually keep the bait up out of their easy reach.

Fish the rig with the bail open and line over your finger. If a fish takes the bait, release the line and let him swim off with it. When the fish stops, he presumably turns the bait to

swallow it, then swims off. Now throw the bail and set the hook. If action is slow and the rod is spiked, keep the drag very loose and follow the same basic procedure. Fish do not always act according to any rules, so this technique may have to be varied to suit specific situations.

It is about time to consider where to fish. Weaks may show up anywhere in an inlet. The major problem that we have there is the tidal current. If you cannot hold bottom your bait will be washed into the shallows where action is very improbable. There are two ways to handle the problem. One is to fish the relatively slow moving back eddies behind obstructions such as sand bars or jetties. The second is to fish from an hour before slack tide until an hour after it changes. That is a time of slower currents, but fish are likely to be actively feeding.

The Sore Thumb in Fire Island Inlet was the site of some of the hottest tiderunner fishing to ever take place from the shore in our area. Before the west side sanded in, there were excellent conditions on one side or the other depending upon the tide. There is still good water on the flood tide, but not as many fish. The Breezy Point, Silver Point and Jones Inlet jetties offer partially or wholly sheltered area during some tidal stages. Points of land, rocky reefs and sand bars provide good water on the north shore and around Montauk and the south shore beaches.

Big weaks usually want some fairly deep water near where they are feeding, even at night. If you locate a place such as I have described and fish it regularly, particularly stressing early morning or late evening tides, you should have some success. Remember that the weaks are at a very low stage in their cycle of abundance. Nonetheless many nice fish were caught on snappers last year and no doubt the same thing will happen this year.

The open beach is not usually as productive as the inlets and adjacent shorelines. That does not mean it is hopeless. If you have located a good hole or slough, give it a try. When the fish are migrating they show up almost anywhere.

One last note. Some years we have a run of small mackerel in September. If that happens, use mackerel in the same way that I have described for snappers. They are excellent bait, but must be cast with a gentler heave than the small blues, or you may tear them off of the hook.

Blues and stripers will often attack the same rigs as the weaks. If big blues are around you will need wire leaders. However, small blues are often in the same area as big weaks. When that is the situation, stick to the mono leaders and wait them out. Losing a few hooks is a small price to pay for a tiderunner. Don't let another September pass you by without taking a shot at one of those trophy weaks that are still swimming in local waters.

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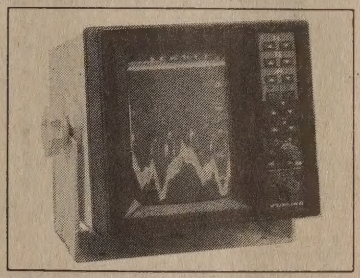

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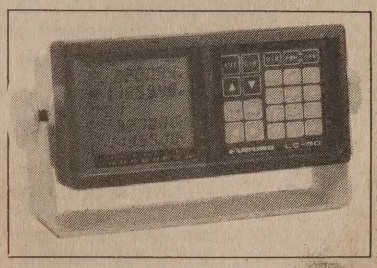

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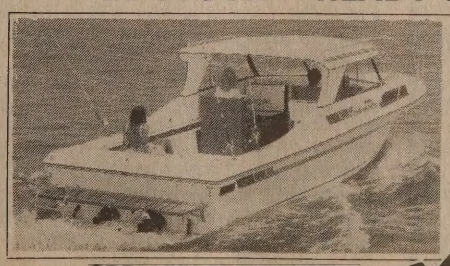

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WESTERN LONG ISLAND SOUND:

AN ASSESSMENT OF MID SUMMER FISHING

by Ted Keatley

Western Long Island Sound striped bass fishermen should not look so haggard and beat for the next few years. With Connecticut waters closed to the taking of striped bass unitl April 1, 1989 and similar restrictions in New York, most striper addicts will be spending their nights in bed instead of dozing fitfully out on the Sound. Although catch and release fishing still is permitted, the majority will find this too frustrating. The "sportsmen" who market fished for 16 to 20 inch bass until a few years ago are really crying the blues—and that is what they probably will be catching. There is a good market for small bluefish, but this is not as lucrative as striped bass were.

1986 is proving to be one of the best bluefish seasons in over 15 years. The school fish arrived by mid-May and the alligators were only a few weeks behind them. I took my first bluefish on May 18 off Norwalk's Sheffield Island and the action has been continous ever since then. Until the first weekend of June, I did most of my fishing from Greenwich westward to Mamaroneck and had some fantastic action at the mouth of Hempstead Harbor on the Long Island side. I used umbrella rigs initially, but soon switched to Don Campbell's Periwinkle hair jigs. You can't catch small fish three or four at a time on a jig, but the average size always is substantially greater.

Hempstead Harbor and "off the hospital" at Smithtown Bay, another popular early season spot, are better than 15 miles from my dock in Stamford. By early June, I was able to save a lot of time and gasoline because big blues moved into Westcott Cove off Stamford's Cummings Beach. Most importantly, they stayed week after week.

What was the attraction which kept them at Westcott Cove? Bait did not seem particularly plentiful. There were some bunker, a few skittish schools of mackerel and a fair number of sand eels. There also were striped bass and a few bluefish off Shippan Point, but there was neither bait or bluefish in Stamford Harbor on the west side of the point. Why?

It was reported that "you could walk on the bunkers" in Greenwich Harbor and Westchester's Mamaroneck Harbor. However, they had few big fish close to shore until the end of June. School blues were plentiful off Captains Island at Greenwich and from buoy 42 outside of Mamaroneck across the Sound to Hempstead Harbor.

"1986 is proving to be one of the best bluefish seasons in over 15 years. The school fish arrived by mid-May and the alligators were only a few weeks behind them."

Why do fish favor certain areas each season? Some locations such as Captains Island and mid-Sound from the Lilco towers at Northport to the hospital are pretty consistent. Others provide action only intermittently. I have spent years devising theories to anticipate the movement of fish and have yet to develop a premise which they did not quickly disprove. Probably just as well. If you knew what you would catch before you went out, the challenge would be gone and it soon would become boring.

I replaced my old patched and split bunker barrel last winter, but as this is being written, the new one has not been used. The Periwinkle has been so productive that I have not taken the trouble to snag bunkers. Mike Pataky, who often fishes with me, has been doing equally well with homemade "hairy jigs." Old-time Stamford fishermen made and used these jigs for many years, but most had switched to newer space age secret weapons in recent seasons.

Although I have been slow to start this year, bunker dunkin' always has fascinated me and I probably will begin swimming a live one before long.

Bunkers are reasonably plentiful along the whole Atlantic Coast. Landings have been about average: 326,000 metric tons in 1984 and 305,000 last year. Actually, populations are higher than the average figures indicate because catch effort has decreased substantially, particularly north of New Jersey. The Seacoast Products plant at Port Monmouth, NJ was closed in 1981 and the only major operators on the Atlantic Coast are Zapata-Haynie and Standard Products, both based in Reedsville, Va. (Standard Products has closed their plant for the 1986 season).

A combination of low menhaden meal prices and high diesel fuel costs have created a profit squeeze for the industry. Bunker meal must compete with soy beans and the Peruvian anchovy for the poultry feed market. In recent years, soybean prices have been depressed and Peruvian anchovies plentiful.

In the early 1970s, menhaden meal brought close to $600 a ton and diesel fuel was twenty odd cents a gallon. Now, meal is under $300 and diesel fuel costs about a dollar. With that arithmetic, you cannot run a purse seiner very far and come out with a profit.

It is tough for those who depended upon the mossbunkers for their livelihood, but a boon for Western Long Island Sound Sportsmen who rely on the menhaden to draw the alligator blues to the area. Although bunkers are plentiful in the Sound, I would not expect to see many Zapata-Haynie boats in the area this summer.

Another plus for the local fisherman is the fact that the menhaden seem to have stopped moving up to the Gulf of Maine for most of the

summer as they did during a number of recent years. Migration beyond Cape Cod is an intermittent thing with no fully understood explanation. The fish will do this for 5 or 10 years and then travel no further than Cape Cod for a long period. The probable reason is a particular combination of currents and water temperature during the spring migration. Large populations in Maine seem to coincide with periods when water temperatures there are above average.

Hopefully, big blues will have the bunkers cornered in most harbors by the time that this issue reaches readers. Mid-August to early October normally is the period of fast action with the alligators close to shore.

Chunk bait is the usual method, but in recent years, I fished live bunkers whenever I could. Live bait will outfish chunks three or four to one most of the time. The only exception is when the blues are in a feeding frenzy. Then they will grab anything which is in front of them.

One problem with live bunkers is that a blue likes to chop off the tail and then come back to finish the meal at its leisure. I have devised a rig which solves the problem with big blues although the small ones which eat the bunker an inch at a time remain an aggravation.

I use a 7/0 Sproat hook and attach a second hook to the shank of the first with about four inches of nylon coated wire leader. If the loop is pulled up snugly against the first hook before the sleeve is crimped, there is no danger of it slipping off. The barb of the top hook acts as a stop to prevent this. I use a 6/0 or 7/0 Sproat for the tail hook. Finally, I snell the first hook with about eight inches of wire cable to prevent an overeager blue from chopping me off.

When rigging, I run the first hook under the dorsal fin of the bunker with the point exposed. The second hook is held along the bunker's side with a small rubber band around the tail. Ideal bands can be bought at the cosmetic counter of the five and dime. They are intended for the pony tails of little girls.

Do not allow the bunker to take out more than 75 feet of line. A longer length makes striking the fish difficult. The straightest possible line between you and the bunker improves the chance of successful hook setting.

I always use revolving spool reels for this type of fishing. I do not feel that spinning tackle provides sufficient control over the line. I fish the reel with the drag backed off and either the click engaged or an attentive finger on the spool. If you rely on the click with the reel in free spool, an overly ambitious blue can cause a beautiful backlash. With a little practice, it is not difficult to tighten the drag on a running fish after you have used thumb pressure to set the hook.

The timing for setting the hook is difficult to judge. However, the chance of losing a fish by reacting too quickly is far greater than the risk of waiting too long. Relax and give the fish a chance to take the bait down. When you set the hook, begin the retrieve with the rod high above your head if that is necessary to prevent slack line. There is no better way of losing a fish than striking and then dropping the rod tip before beginning the retrieve. That moment of slack is all that is needed for your opponent to spit the hook and head over the hill and far away.

A bunker often will warn you of an impending strike. If it circles erratically and appears to be having a nervous breakdown, there is a good chance that something big is giving it the evil eye. Until the recent striper moratorium, one of the advantages of livelining was the possibility that a big bass could be the cause of the bunker's frenzy. A bluefish comes in slashing, but a bass is slower and more deliberate. Thus, when you thought that you were setting the hook on a bluefish, you could have been yanking the bait away from a bass. As a rule, a series of sharp yanks meant a bluefish. A bass normally mouthed the bunker and moved off steadily and deliberately with it.

Some big weakfish in the 10 to 15 lb. range are being taken. However, the "sea trout" are in the down phase of their abundance cycle and not too plentiful.

There is good action with porgies of all sizes and sea bass seem to be staging a comeback.

It has been an excellent year for fluke. As usual, the greatest concentration is along the sandy beaches on the Long Island side. The most productive North Shore locations include the beaches eastward from Matinecock Point at Hempstead Harbor past buoys 19 and 17 to the entrance of Oyster Bay. There also is good fishing around Diamond Point (Lloyds Neck) and at Eatons. Other excellent possibilities are the mouth of the Nissequogue River in Smithtown Bay and Cranes Neck. On the Connecticut shore, Cockenoe Island at Norwalk always produces fish and there usually is some action around Wee Captains Island off Greenwich. In all instances, the critical thing is to pick clean areas where you do not hang up or collect seaweed. Since the commonest technique is drifting on bottom using a killie or a sand eel combined with a strip of squid, rough bottom is a losing proposition.

Years ago, the Tampa out of Sheepshead Bay specialized in fishing for big fluke. However, the boat did not drift. It was still fishing on rough bottom at New Jersey's Shrewsbury Rocks. For this type of fishing, a whole snapper or half of a butterfish would be an ideal bait.

All in all, 1986 seems to be shaping up as a good bottom fishing year. I believe that much of the improvement is due to the increased Connecticut and New York restrictions on trawling in Western Long Island Sound.

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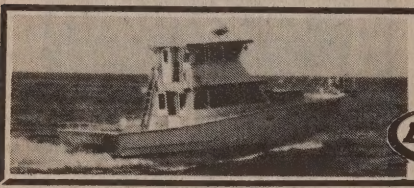

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East End REPORT

with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

As we go to press, Hurricane Charley is bearing down on our area, and is likely to have an effect on fishing, at least for a few days. However, pre storm reports indicate plenty of tuna in the Butterfish Hole, mostly large school fish with a few giants. Porgy catches remain tremendous, while fluke are concentrated in Montauk waters, drawing boats from other areas.

MONTAUK

A group of ''Happy Hookers'', the new all women fishing club, enjoyed a good fluke trip on the **Viking Starlite** Sunday morning, reported president Linda. The girls used smelt for a catch averaging at least ten fluke a person, with the pool caught by George Walch a guest of the club. Many sea bass, some to three pounds also took fluke baits. For information on this Nassau County based fishing club, call Linda at 516-623-7258 or Suzanne at 516-735-5246. Captain Steve Forsberg commented that although Sunday's Cox's Ledge cod trip was hampered by a no drift sea condition, anglers who worked at it managed six or eight cod apiece, with the pool about twenty-eight pounds. Saturday nights bluefish trip was pretty good. After a slow start, almost two hundred bluefish in the twelve to fifteen pound range were caught during a one hour period at the end of the trip, with the pool weighing eighteen pounds.

Anglers on the **Viking Star**'s tuna trips have returned arm weary with tuna and tales of the ''one that got away!'' High lightening last Monday's trip was a white marlin that took a tuna bait. Tuesday, yellowfin of 140 and 165 pounds were among the catch. Long Island Fisherman staffer Brian Mullholland reported on Wednesday's trip as a ''mind boggling experience''. About twenty large bluefin and yellowfin were actually boated, all near one hundred pounds in weight with the pool a 160 pound bluefin. Tangled lines, lost fish, aching backs were the order of the day. Brian recommends anyone taking this trip to bring a harness, rent or bring a 6.0 reel and eat your vitamins!

Open boat porgy action is outrageous, according to Captains Richie Rade, Dusty Dorzbacher and Fred Bird, with great catches continuing through the past weekend. Captain Fred on the **Flying Cloud** claimed that, although a large flounder won Wednesday's pool, Mark El Ferandaz

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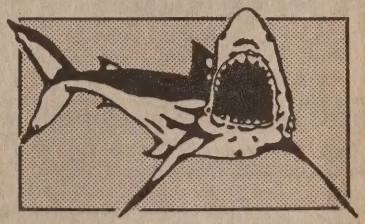
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was high hook with 99 porgies. The fish bit very well on Saturday, with Bill Carrington catching seventy-eight fish, but Andy Williams winning the pool with a three and a half pound fluke. Larger fish moved into the area on Sunday. Spabros Genetzakis caught seventy-one porgies.

Anglers on the **Little Bear** caught well on Saturday, with many counting well over one-hundred fish in their catch, high hook was 111. For some unexplained reason the fish bit well early on Sunday, then became picky. However James Bill of Newark did manage to catch seventy-three porgies anyway.

Fluke, sea bass, porgies, blues and bonito were brought into **Uihlein's Boat Rentals** over the weekend according to Henry. A group from Lilly's Cup Coffee Shop in Babylon that included John Young with Michael, Doreen, Flo, John Junior and Kim Egloff, rented a twenty-four foot craft to catch a lot of fluke, top weight 6.2 pounds, fishing close to the beach at Shagwong. Mike Saunders and his seven year old son tried for tuna on a twenty-four foot rental boat, reporting great action with big fish, unfortunately lost at boatside.

Joan Jones, speaking for **Captain's Cove Marina** reported on a good fluke catch made by Tony Rispola and his grandchildren, three year old Carolyn and six year old Anthony while fishing Montauk's south side on Sunday. Although many fluke and sea bass were caught, the youngsters were more excited about the lone porgy caught by three year old Carolyn. Weekend catches of fluke included many in the five and six pound range, with the south side mentioned in most reports. Most charter boats are seeking and returning with tuna or shark. Captain Bruce Kieffer of the charter boat **Ebb Tide** caught a variety of tuna with one white marlin on Thursday. Sunday's catch was nine yellowfin and one albacore.

Captain Joe McBride of the **My Mate** also reported yellowfin and albacore on his trips last week. However, on Saturday, three mako sharks were fought with one of 147 pounds boated. Sunday's group also ran into sharks, with a mako of 143 pounds brought back.

Captain Fritz Hubner of the **Mistress Too** reports school tuna fishing excellent, returning with anywhere from three to nine fish per trip. The fish were located on either the east or west banks of the Butterfish Hole. The bite was not as early as the previous week, which enabled charter boats to leave at a more "normal" hour.

The **King Wayne** fished her first canyon trip with a group headed by Jack Dowd of restaurant fame. Captain King reported on the wonders of canyon fishing, seventeen yellowfin tuna boated, with a bigeye and four longfin albacore. A hammerhead shark of 125 pounds was successfully fought. However, an encounter with a blue marlin resulted

in a straightened hook and lost fish. The group was enthralled by the antics of a manta ray with a ten foot "wing span". Locally, tuna remained red hot over the weekend, with shark and bluefish action taking up any slack.

Dana Aaronson, speaking for **Tuma's Dock and Tackle** pointed out that school tuna action seemed a little slower on Thursday and Friday, but picked up again on the weekend at both the east and west side of the Butterfish Hole, with charter boats such as the "Breakaway" returning with as many as ten yellowfin and bluefin to one-hundred pounds in weight. Plenty of shark were located about fifteen miles south of the Point. Norman Bach of New Jersey spoke of releasing several brown and blue shark on the "Abracadabra", while returning with a mako of 176 pounds on the weekend. Inshore, best bet for bluefish appears to be at Southwest Ledge for large blues and Shagwong for smaller blues, while Cartright and the Point are erratic in bluefish action. Doormat fluke of seven and eight pounds were caught on bucktails by anglers fishing close to the Point, while porgy and sea bass catches remain steady.

Port Jefferson residents Michael Sauter and his fourteen year old son Matthew have been doing very well with giant tuna on the charter boat **Dawn** with Captain Greg Beacher. During the week of July 4th, Mr. Sauter accounted for a 655 pound giant, while his son successfully fought a fish of 545 pounds the same week. Last Wednesday, after a 45 minute battle, a seven-hundred pound giant was gaffed, with teenager Matthew on the rod. The fish took a butterfish bait, at the Butterfish Hole.

Several notable tuna were caught on the charter boat **Gusto** during the past two weeks including giants of 350 pounds by Ty Klein and John Stein. One of 540 pounds by teenager Alexander Sholmn and his friend, with the most recent giant tuna last Wednesday by Artie Hornig, a 530 pound fish. Artie, of the South Shore Fish Market, has made several trips on the **Gusto** for medium bluefin and large yellowfin. Scott Norris was on board for the most recent catch of a 250 pound bluefin with some yellowfin late last week.

Captain Mike Bentivegna Junior reported a fabulous two weeks with tuna on the charter boat **Pronto**, with most charters returning with yellowfin from eighty to 125 pounds and bluefin. Last weekend, Glenn Ricci, on a one man charter, fought successfully four yellowfin and two bluefin tuna, all in the eighty to one-hundred pound range. Because of cancellations, Captain Mike has August 29th and 31st open for tuna charters. Call for charter information.

A free blackfish charter for two will be won by a lucky viewer of WLIG-TV, Channel 55, on the charter boat **Pronto**. Watch L.I. Fishing this week at 7:30p.m. for details on how to enter the drawing.

Captain Ron Grandinetti has been doing very well on porgy trips the past two weeks on the **Julie III**. Recent charter groups include Russell Smith, Mr. Jones, Artie Wherman, Harold Kimbal, while this past weekend Jessie Walker fished on Saturday, Lou Pacione on Sunday. High hook on each trip has been at least 150 porgies, often over 200, with fish now ranging from one to a few of three pounds. Captain Ron is fishing both at the Point and south side.

Captain Bob Storc of the charter boat **Caprice** first fished at the Butterfish Hole where an eighty-two pound yellowfin tuna was caught by Mario Marra and his family on Monday, then thirty-one bluefish topped off the catch. On Friday, Tim Saelzer and his friends put three bluefin tuna to ninety-one pounds into the cooler. Saturday's porgy trip with Art Gomez and his friends was very successful. The group also jigged blues and weaks to ten pounds on the way back. Jack Evans opted for blues and weaks on Sunday which were jigged, filling several bushels.

Captain Bill Ricca of the charter boat **Allyssa Ann** reports good fishing all week with yellowfin to eighty-five pounds in weight caught on jigs and bait on the Butterfish Hole. Average catch ranges from three to six for a six man charter.

Most action at **Gone Fishing Marina** centered on fluke this past weekend, according to Tom Jordan. Al Hom of Pittsberg joined Jim Victoria on Jim's trailored boat on Saturday for his first fluke trip ever. Naturally he beat out Jim's six and a half pound fluke with a ten pound doormat! Charlie Crafa and Bill Podmore fished in fourty to sixty feet of water on the south side for twenty nice keepers, including an eight pounder. Lee Kessler and Dianne Camerlingo fished on the trailored "Exciter" at the Midway rips for thirty fluke, top weight five pounds, and five large sea bass. Sunday's action centered on tuna. Ed Kramer launched at the marina, fished at the Butterfish Hole, caught two yellowfin of seventy and one-hundred pounds, topped off the catch with several bluefish of ten and twelve pounds at Cartright for a nice day's fishing. Frank, Bob and Pete took the marina based boat "Mimi" to the tuna grounds returning with an eighty pound yellowfin and two albacore. Sal DeMeglio, this time with Andy Arbiter, caught the second marlin of the year for the "Contagious", with Curt and Danny handling mating chores. The ninety pounds, ninety-two inch fish will be mounted. A ninety pound yellowfin also took chunked baits.

Weekend charters on Captain Howard's **Reel Magic** were for tuna. Saturday with Barry Endelson of White Plains when yellowfin tuna were caught, and Sunday with Rocco Torre and his pals Chris, Thomas and Peter where the group passéd the rod around to enjoy the only yellowfin of the day, then tried their luck at shark. Unfortunately, sharks did not cooperate as much as tuna on Sunday.

Captain Jim Flowers, of the charter boat **Mary-A** enjoyed a good week with tuna averaging three to five a day, most in the seventy to 120 pound range. Charter groups include: Mr. Iacono, Mr. Lamitone, Royal Electric Company, and Mr. Barylski during the week. On Saturday a white marlin, weighing fifty-eight pounds (six feet six inches) was caught by Mr. Heffler, along with three tuna. Sunday's trip with the Coopers returned with two yellowfin to ninety pounds, with four bluefin, top weight 120 pounds.

Captain John DeMaio of the charter boat **Vivienne** reports fairly consistant action with tuna, mostly yellowfin, with anywhere from one to four boated each trip. Since this continuous action with large yellowfins is so early and long lasting, one can only speculate as to how much tuna will be in local waters when the football (bluefins) tuna season gets underway in September and October. Best make arrangements for tuna charters before all fall dates are booked.

The charter boat **Adios**, with Captain Phil Lewis has been tuna fishing all week, with anywhere from four to ten yellowfin boated each trip. A charter with Mike Holmes fro giant tuna last week, resulted in a hook up which was lost, cut off by another boat, while a trip for giants on Saturday using only heavy tackle resulted in not hits.

Captain Tom Federico of the **Harbor Hooker III** reported a couple of tuna trips, one during which a seventy pound yellowfin was caught, but on Saturday, a mako shark took a bait meant for tuna, jumped five times and parted the mono line (wire is not used for tuna). An inshore bluefish trip Sunday with Tom Tuft and Bob Hearst put a couple of dozen blues into the box, fishing Crow Shoals off Gardiner's Island. Captain Tom has a few remaining tuna dates left. Call him for information.

SOUTH FORK

Wilhelric ii has been doing very well on fluke at Montauk, fishing the Rips, according to Captain Clark Bellows, with two-hundred to three-hundred keepers per trip and a seventy-five percent keeper ratio. On last Tuesday's trip, Lou Becker of Lynbrook won the pool with a five pound fluke, the largest of fourteen in his cooler. Cathleen Baker of Levittown caught an even dozen, the largest three pounds. On Wednesday the fish hit on both tides, with Matt Lewis catching over a dozen, taking the pool with a fluke of four and a half pounds. Captain Artie Lach reported exceptionally good porgy fishing last Thursday and Friday, with high hook

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on Saturday seventy porgies. For some unknown reason the fish were fickle on Sunday in all porgy areas. A reminder that Sunday, besides being ladies day (women pay half fare), the boat is much less crowded.

George Pharoah of **Bayview Marine and Tackle** is still collecting snappers caught off Long Wharf Pier by children and preparing for another tuna trip to Montauk with Chris Salb. Locally, porgy catches were very good at Cedar Point, with one boat returning with over two-hundred porgies each about a pound in weight. Best spot seemed to be in twenty-one feet of water, on the west side of the channel. Nick Lobel-Weiss, while fishing for porgies at Cedar Point hooked and landed a six pound weakfish which took a piece of squid on a porgy hook. There are no reports of fluke locally. Most marina customers are traveling to Montauk waters and fishing Shagwong and Culloden for fluke up to eight pounds.

Joe Corr of **Sherry and Joe Corr's Best Boatworks** reported lots of fluke in the bay and inlet areas, however, only one out of five is a keeper. Tuna, mostly yellowfin have been caught as close to shore as one-hundred feet of water. Recently Bob Tangolic had the disturbing experience of having his yellowfin, later estimated as 180 pounds, attacked by a huge shark as he was reeling it in. Bob was fishing on his boat "Misty Blue" in 120 feet of water south of the Inlet.

On a weekend canyon trip with Larry Bowman and his friend Kathleen, Captain Don Van DeWater saw plenty of dolphin and boated twenty-three, with a small yellowfin tuna on the **Dutch Treat**. Captain Don remarked that the waters on the way to the canyon held plenty of hammerheads and vast schools of skipjack tuna. Bluefish returned to the Shinnecock area in force on the weekend, with schools ranging from the Inlet to five miles offshore.

Scott Rana and William Batterson with sons Peter and Paul, fished the twenty fathom finger southwest of Shinnecock on Saturday. Three yellowfin tuna to eighty-five pounds plus a ninety-six pound white marlin took chunked baits, according to Thom Speckenback of **Speck's Bait and Tackle**. Inshore, fluke remain good at the west side of Shinnecock Inlet, near the bridge and dock, but measure for shorts. Snappers are feeding everywhere. A few weakfish have been caught in the Peconics and in Noyac Bay, while porgies are excellent off Gardiner's and south of Plum Island. Big bluefish, some to twelve pounds, have been caught in Plum Gut.

Al Feather's Jigs were used by Dr. Arnold A. Urist, his son Steven, Myrna and Jennifer Kramer and Al Flexor on a trip in Shinnecock Bay for seventeen keeper fluke last Thursday. On Saturday on a short trip, Johann Schrier and his wife, both from Suffern, New Jersey, caught a few with Al. Best luck with the feather jigs in Shinnecock Bay seems to be by casting from shore. Lots of bluefish have invaded Shinnecock Bay, some in the teen sizes.

South Shore REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

With Hurricane Charlie churning its ay towars us as we go to press, it's likely that the current fishing picture will undergo some changes as a result of the storm. Depending upon it's severity, the greatest impact will probably be a substantial drop in ocean water temps resulting from the runoff of heavy rains and the strong northeast winds being forecast at this time. This may chase schools of yellowfin tuna, which have been cavorting a short run from the inlets, to more familiar and distant turf. However, the cooler water temperatures just might give the bluefishing a shot in the arm. Night bluefishing improved considerably this week but daytime fishing still left a lot to be desired. Tuna, yellowfins and school bluefins continue to congregate around wrecks like the Oregon, San Diego and Virginia. A few are being trolled but chunkers had the edge this week.

Fluke continue to dominate the bays and inlet areas with the fishing still plagued by shorts, but blessed with plenty of action. Increasing numbers of sea bass are being taken in Great South Bay and snappers are thick at most docks.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

Plenty of fluke continue to be taken in the bay according to George Kideris of **Cerullo Bros. Fishing Station** in **East Moriches**. Though a large percentage of the fish are shorts, they are providing plenty of action and

there are enough keepers around to make it worthwhile. Best spots have been south of 29, from 29 to the West Cut and between 29A and Buoy 29. Fish are being taken on both tides on smelt, sandeels and spearing. Still some flounder behind buoy 29 during the last 2 hours of the flood tide. Small blues being taken on fluke baits. Largest fluke of the weekend was a 4½ pounder taken on Sunday by Bill Haltz.

At **Silly Lily Fishing Station** in **East Moriches**, Gary Grunseich was busy securing down the Marina in anticipation of the arrival of Charley. Concerning the fishing, lots of fluke with many shorts taken again this week at the Elbow, between Buoys 39 and 41 and in Harts Cove. Keeper ratio is about 1:5 with the average catch per boat in the range of 15 keepers. Best action has been on the last half of the incoming and the first half of the outgoing. Lots of crabs around and snappers are good size and there are plenty of them.

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

Plenty of nice size snappers on all the docks according to Paul Graniello at **J & J Tackle** in **Patchogue**. Crabbing was on the slow side this week for the dock crowd but boatmen working on the south side of the bay did very well with blue claws. Lots of small fluke providing plenty of action in Great South Bay. Fish are spread from the Lighthouse to the Inlet. Not much in the way of bluefish news out of Fire Island but Moriches Inlet was alive with choppers on Saturday. Vinnie Remini, Jack Seluaggio and Tony Seluaggio took a load of choppers in the 5 to 8 pound class on bunker. The largest fluke brought into the shop this week was transported from Montauk by Tom Ganetis. The Patchogue Fishing Club member checked in with a 7.8 pound doormat. Quite a few yellowfin tuna taken by chunking in the vicinity of the Patchogue Grounds on Saturday. Not much trolling action reported however in recent days. There are a lot of bonito around from just outside the inlet on out to 80-90 feet. A reminder that J & J Tackle is now an issuing agent for NY State Hunting and Fishing Licenses.

Over at **J & R Sports Center** in **Oakdale**, Dave Canale reported a 135 pound hammerhead shark for Paul Pedretti on Saturday. It was taken 15 miles southeast of F.I. Inlet. Also on the weekend, Michael Plesch of Fritz's Restaurant in Bay Shore, reported dolphin action in 125' of water SE of the inlet. Still lots of fluke action but shorts continue to dominate. Some 1-3 pound bluefish taken by flukers along with some small weaks to 5 pounds. Snappers have been hit or miss at the Sayville Dock and more consistent in Great River.

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Fluking remains strong with the best action at the inlet according to Jim Romano of **Peppy's Tackle Shop** in **East Islip**. On Wednesday Charlie Crapanzano and Bill Cameron teamed up aboard Charlie's 'Ruthless'. Working in 35' of water just outside of Fire Island Inlet, the pair put away 22 keepers to 4 pounds. Charlie returned with is wife Ruth on Thursday to put way 16 more keepers. A few weaks are being culled from the inlet by fluke fishermen. On Friday, Larry Woodward took weaks of 5 and 3½ pounds from among the summer flatties. Occasional reports of weaks being taken in Nichols Bay opposite Heckscher Park. A large school of 5 pound bluefish entertained umbrella rig trollers near the Fire Island pound nets on Sunday. Wire line was the ticket to the best scores. Late last week, R. Bender returned from the San Diego with a 115 pound thresher and told of seeing lots of non-biting tuna on the surface. Snappers are thick at the local docks and crabs have been OK.

From **Smokey's Tackle Shop** in **Bay Shore**, Carl Miller reported that the Ocean Wrecks continue to play host to yellowfin tuna. The private boat Distant Drums weighed in a 90 pound yellowfin that took a chunk bait near the Virginia on Saturday. Another private boat customer reported trolling a pair of 70 pound yellowfin east of the Oregon. Plenty of bonito and skipjack showing up outside now as well. Fluking continues to be very good, particularly on the last half of the flood tide. Even though tides were off this past week, customers still reported quite a bit of action. One customer who fished late and worked part of the flood returned with 21 keepers. Live snappers are accounting for some weaks in the 6-7 pound range at the inlet. Not much news on bluefish although a few were reported taken south of the Ocean Reef on both Saturday and Sunday. Snapper fishing is in full swing at the docks and crabbing remains good.

Frank Randolphi and the crew aboard his UBI I enjoyed a super session with yellowfins on the edge of the Hudson Canyon Thursday night into Friday morning. He, Mike Clancy, Tom Vezo, Mike Townsend and

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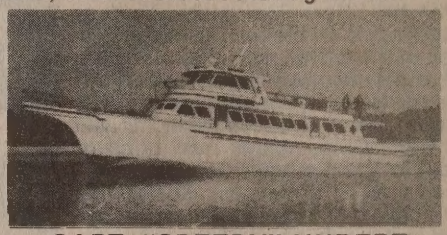

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Fisherman staffer John Raguso chunked up 18 yellowfin from 90 to 115 pounds and broke off 9 others. Twelve of the tuna were released. John reported that all of the action occured between midnight Thursday and 3AM Friday. The better action seemed to be concentrated along the East Wall as many boats fishing the West Wall reported little or no action. Daytime trolling was poor based on radio chatter.

Capt. Neil Delanoy of the **Bay Shore** open boat **Laura Lee** has been working Snake Hill Channel, West Channel and the Lighthouse area. The skipper reported pretty good fluking this week despite Ebb tide conditions. He felt that there has been some improvement in the keeper ratio. Dan Bossman led the way with 8 keepers on Saturday while Carl, Margaret and Kevin Capella put away 20 keepers on Sunday. Neil felt this should be a fine week as tide conditions will be ideal. Both spearing and smelt have been working well in the bait department.

Night bluefishing improved considerably this week with 5 trips out of 7 producing good action. This via Capt. George Tweedy of the **Capt. Scotty 3**. In addition, a few large fish are beginning to mix with the smaller choppers. Blues this week ranged from 5 to 14 pounds. Fluking was good most of the week despite a somewhat picky Sunday. Best action has been at the inlet and sandeels have worked best in the bait department. Keeper ratio varies from day to day with it as high as 50 percent and as low as 1 out of 10.

Capt. Charlie Kennedy of the **Capt. Joseph II** reported that fluke fishing is holding up well. This week was pretty good despite the lack of ideal tides. This coming week should be a good one with a flood tide for most of the day. Good catches from the Lighthouse to the Inlet although some nice fish have been picked in the State Channel. Bluefishing broke wide open Wednesday night with 22 fares accounting for over 500 blues. Fishing was done 5 miles SE of the Inlet. The blues range from 3-6 pounds but a few did go as high as 14 pounds. The action repeated itself on Thursday night with Rich Behrens of Commack taking 29 blues to 14 pounds. On Friday, the fishing slumped but it bounced back on Saturday with another big catch just 3 miles from the inlet. Here again, 3-6 pound fish predominated.

Capt. Gordon Roman of the open boat **Captree Queen II** reported that fares continue to take plenty of fluke with the keeper ratio varying from day to day. Lots of throwbacks account-

ing for plenty of steady action. Bluefishing has been generally excellent at night. The only bad night was Friday. Thursday and Saturday nights trips saw 600 blues taken each night ranging from 3 to 14 pounds. A sprinkling of big fish beginning to appear with the smaller fish now.

Speaking from **Captree Bait and Tackle**, Bobby Sprenger reported plenty of snappers from both the Captree and Jones Beach Piers. Casters also pick away at fluke from these same structures. A reminder that the shop will host their Annual Snapper Derby on September 6th and 7th in cooperation with the LI State Park Commission. Bobby added that the boatmen have been enjoying some very good fluke action in the inlet area and near the Lighthouse. Daytime bluefishing has been erratic but night fishing perked up considerably this past week. Joyce Knipper checked in a 7.4 pound blackfish taken on Sunday while fluking aboard the open boat **Jib VI**.

Tom Healy speaking from **Augie's Tackle Shop** in **Babylon** said that tuna action in and around the wrecks San Diego, Oregon and Virginia has settled into a early AM trolling pattern or mid-day chumming and baiting. Several trollers reported taking small bluefins along with yellowfins to 70 pounds in 140 feet of water SE of the Oregon. On Friday, Chris Clark and Ron Bruckner aboard Bill Wenzel's Traveler chummed over the Oregon and put away 6 football bluefins in addition to a 552 pound white shark. During the week 'Foot Fixer' accounted for 6 tuna while the 'Kay-Gees' racked up 11 tuna. Bluefish still a little scarce with some reportedly trolled in 70' of water south of the Whistle Buoy on the weekend. Fluke catches vary greatly with lots of fish around but many of them undersized. Jack Uhland worked from the bridge to the inlet on Tuesday and put away 50 of the flatties. Only 3 were keepers. He consoled himself by putting in an inning behind the Sore Thumb and taking 20 flounder. There were some good catches of bigger fluke made near the pound nets during the week. Good snapper fishing near all the local docks and crabbing has been decent from the shore and boats according to Tom.

Capt. Ralph Green of the open boat **Miss Babylon** said that fluke fishing remains good with the keeper ratio varying day to day. There are still lots of shorts making up the action. Ralph has been working from the bridge to the inlet and finding a fair number of sea bass mixing in with the fluke over mussel bed and rock bottom. On Friday, the Baldwin family accounted for 35 keepers. This action was on the Ebb tide on spearing and squid combos. Incoming tide has produced the best fishing but as evidenced by Friday's catches, the fish are biting throughout the Ebb as well.

Capt. Fred Kieser of the **Babylon** charter boat **Scamp V** reported on several of the trips made this past

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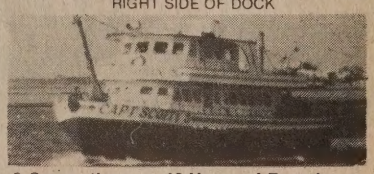

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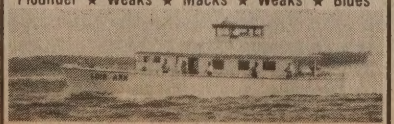

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week. On Wednesday he found a 75 pound mako for Joe Walter in 110' of water SE of the Inlet. Same day, Mark Freeman dropped a large shark estimated at over 10 feet in length. On Saturday, a group from AHRC returned with a nice mess of sea bass to go along with 30 keeper fluke. On Saturday night, a group of Grumman employees headed by Art Shaw, put away 60 blues from 8 to 12 pounds in 50' of water south of the inlet.

According to Mike Andreani of **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle** fluke fishing remains excellent from the Bridge through the Inlet. Lots of action but lots of short fish as well. Some bigger fluke taken on live snappers near the Sore Thumb on Saturday. Otherwise most anglers are using sandeel and squid combos. Snapper fishing very good at all local docks. Crabbing is holding its own on bait and in traps. The better tuna action seemed to have moved off to the east with a couple of boats working opposite Shinnecock scoring with yellowfins. Another customer reported taking a pair of yellowfins near the Virginia. The best tuna catches this week have been made by chunkers rather than trollers. Butterfish has been the top bait. Some flounder and a few kingfish and blowfish mixed with them in the Sore Thumb Pocket. Bloodworms work best here. The catch of the week involved a customer who was diamond jigging with a 007 and a Smokey's Custom Flounder Rod. The angler was surprised by an 80 pound mako which was somehow landed on the small lure and light tackle.

Jimmy Schaefer over at **Charlie's Bait and Tackle** in **Lindenhurst** said that fluking continues good with a better keeper ratio but still lots of shorts in the catches. The shop has killies in stock and they have been working well on some of the larger fish. Also some bigger fish on live snappers. The State Channel and from the Lighthouse to the Inlet has all been productive fluke ground. Porgies and sea bass settling onto the Kismet Reef with bigger porgies and sea bass on the F.I. Ocean Reef. Lots

of snappers and crabs being taken from local docks. Tuna continue to frustrate many trollers in the vicinity of the offshore wrecks. Chunkers definitely have the edge this week though some fish were taken by trollers and jiggers. Some boats manage a few, many have been unable to get on the score board.

From **Z Crab Tackle** in **Copiague**, Chester Shew reported one of the season's best fluke catches for a pair of local sharpies identified only as Bill and Al. On Friday, the pair went to work on several nearby ocean wrecks and put away 40 fluke from 4 to 10 pounds! On Saturday, Al Smith and Fred Hagermeyer and Frank Lynch worked an ocean wreck to the tune of 65 sea bass to 4½ pound and nearly 100 sea porgies. They also had a 15 pound bluefish. On Saturday, Squaw Island Fishing Club Member Bill Wenzel and crew accounted for a 555 pound white shark as well as some school bluefins. Some weakfish are being livelined at the Sore Thumb on live snappers and some flounder continue to be picked through the warm weather at Bergen Point. Locally, the Copiague Hole has been producing a mixed bag of porgies, sea bass and blowfish. On the weekend, Frank DiGaoreaio worked between Bergen Point and the Amityville Cut with sandeel and squid combos and put away 17 keeper fluke.

Speaking from **Bob's Bait and Tackle** in **Amity Harbor**, Bob Rose reported some keeper fluke in the State Channel but most are shorts. Tom Claud aboard his 'Jesse James' on Thursday, stopped to show a good catch of porgies, sea bass and blowfish made at the Copiague Hole on bloodworms and squid. Pretty good snapper fishing and also crabbing at all the local docks. Blues have been tough to find judging by reports from customers and the offshore scene was quiet as inshore tuna action seemed to move further to the east this week.

Frank Pristera of **Edelman's** in **Farmingdale** reported that Bill Biscardi and Joe Paradiso aboard 'High Hook' on Saturday trolled 3 bluefin tuna to 30 pounds, 1 mile north of the Oregon. Frank knew of a number of yellowfins and small bluefins along with quite a few skipjack trolled in the vicinity of the Oregon and the San Diego over the weekend. The 'Joymaster' had a 50 pound yellowfin on Saturday. On Wednesday, Frank Travato returned from a trip 40 miles south of Shinnecock with 5 yellowfins to 70 pounds and 3 dolphin in the 15 pound class. On Sunday, a school of bluefish was working between Democrat Point and the pound nets. The fish were tight to the beach and were taken on trolled umbrellas. A reminder from Edelman's that Hunting Licenses are on sale at the store and you can pick up deer permit applications here as well.

West End REPORT
with Stu Miller

The biggest and best news of the week has been the exceptional fluking at Ambrose Channel in the New York Bight. The bottom seems to be paved with fluke and keeper ratios are very high. As this report is being typeset, Hurricane Charlie is boogying and hopefully will not spoil this fluke hotspot. Bluefishing this past week has had its high points and low points but generally people definitely know they have been bluefishing. Various trips on the open boats in the area have been good to very good. Floundering in the deeper holes for serious pounders has been quite good. Offshore has been fair this week on yellowfin tuna. Blacks are starting at the bridges while pin bass and sand porgies are being caught in

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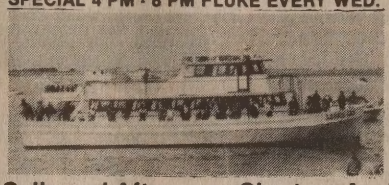

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the bay. B.C.C.s and snappers are in very decent numbers.

WEST END BAYS/ JONES INLET

We learn from **Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station** in **Seaford** that Mr. Nello had 19 keepers Saturday from the Squaw Island area. Don Geracy bagged 35 keepers, same area. The keeper ratio in this area is now around 50 percent with catches being made on all of the normal fluke baits. John Ryan hoisted a 6½ pound fluke and a 9 pound weak. Artie told of good blue claw activity on the canal poles and also in traps.

Over at **Wanser's Tackle** we heard of more good bay fluking with a larger bunch of fish now being caught and with a better keeper ratio. Best areas have been Haunts, 2nd Wantagh, Black Banks and Goose Creek. Weaks at the 3rd Wantagh and Big M on worms fished into the bridge on a 3 foot leader fished on the bottom. Sandworms have been best. Lots of blues at the 3rd Wantagh and Black Banks on chunks or fresh bunker. Lots of snappers all over the bay as well as mucho sand porgies in the deeper holes. Blue claws fair in the canals and on the flats. Small blues at Cholera and along the beaches.

We were sorry to learn this week of the sudden and unexpected passing of Louise Signorelli, wife of Capt. Sig Signorelli and mother of Capt. Frank Signorelli, of the charter boat **3 Sea Sons**. Our condolences to the family.

A call from Mike at **Causeway Tackle** in **Wantagh** spoke of good fluking right though Sunday, mostly east of the Wantagh Bridges on incoming with spearing or killies for bait and about a 35 percent keeper ratio. Fish have been weighed in up to 4 pounds, taken at Squaw, the Measured Mile and the area between the 3rd Wantagh and Zack's Bay, along the edges. Small blues also mixed in here. Flounder are a very good item for those putting their mind to it at Squaw, Black Banks, Haunts, Big M, and the C.G. Station on a dropping tide, fish ranging from submidgets to 2 pounders. Chumming not necessary. Bloods have been best. Joe The Mailman kept 80 flounder Friday, on 20 drops. Fabulous porgies from pins to half pounders around the high on sandworms with small sea bass mixed in. Best area is the 1st Wantagh, Wantagh Park and off the steel pier. Snappers a hot item around the high now running 8 to 10 inches on small spearing with best areas being Wantagh Park and the 1st Wantagh. Blues on the upswing in the Three Sisters area from 5 to 7 pounds, jigs days, bait at night with night fishing being off this week. One to three pounders are being trolled around Jones Inlet. Fish are also blitzing through Sloop Channel, hitting small tins. Fabulous fluking at Ambrose (red side) to the tune of 25 to 75 big keepers per boat with big sandeels catching best. Tuna down this week but some good size fish still being taken north of the Virginia Wreck. A few blackfish starting again at the Jones Inlet Construction Dock.

Scott at **Merrick Tackle** in **Bellmore** passed on the news of yellowfin tuna at the Butterfish Hole for baitfishermen and trollers dragging birds and Green Machines. He also knew of 4-8 pound stripers being taken in the back on poppers. This is strictly fun fishing now with all fish to be returned to the water. Lots of fish around, he said.

Over in **Merrick**, Gary at **Garan's Tackle** told of a 5 pound fluke taken by Charlie and Bill while drifting large spearing/squid combos in 20-30' of water off the West End beach. Corey Schneider was happy with 6 weaks to 12 pounds taken at sunrise on both live and chunked bunker.

Moving over to **Freeport**, Capt. Richie Kessinger's **Starstream II** has been having fair to good bay bluefishing with fares taking anywhere from 15 to 25 choppers a man, fish in the 1-8 pound range. Richie said that novices are putting away anywhere from 5-8 fish a man. While the days have been rather consistent, night trips have been hot and cold. For example, one night trip saw over 400 fish taken while the next night it was 60. Big fish of the week was a 17 pounder caught on one of the night trips. There have been a few weaks and bonito mixed in.

We hear from Capt. Sy of the **Blue Fin Fleet** of his bluefish trips this week being on the erratic side, hot and cold. However, he called the week's fluking excellent and steady, the of the year so far with best action to the west. The keeper ratio has been a lot better this week with fish going to 4 pounds. Both Marge DiPiazza and Frank Bonera had 4 pounders. Hihook of the week was Nick Terracuso with 27 keeper fluke. Best baits were spearing and strip bait combos and on some drifts up to ⅓ of the fish were keepers. Sunday's trip for a Manhattan Construction Company saw the day split with fluke and blues. In just 2 hours of fluking, 47 keepers came over the rail. Don't forget the boat's Special Tuna Trips that are being run late summer and fall. See ad for details.

We hear from the **Capt. Lou Fleet** that the full day boat had good to excellent fluking this week with fish to 6 pounds. On days with favorable conditions, the boat has been working ocean areas to the west for the larger fish. The ½-day boat, the C.L. V has been picking away all week ending up with good catches of keeper fluke, best results on the flood tide.

We hear from Capt. Tony of the **Miss Freeport II** that his fares have been having lots of action on the local fluke with still plenty of throwbacks but enough keepers to provide some good meals.

Aboard the **Capt. Andy II** this week, fares had excellent local flounder pounding, mostly in the Short Beach area with mixed fish from ¾ to 1½ pounds.

Word out of **Lou's Fishing Station** at the mouth of Woodcleft Canal is that during the week Baldwin angler Neil Rose on his boat "Ramblin' Rose" bagged three huge flounder Wednesday weighing in at 4 pounds, 4 ounces; 3 pounds, 7 ounces and 3 pounds, 3 ounces. Neil caught these in Merrick Bay, using corn rigs with worms as hook bait. Some yft and bft caught early week roughtly 12 miles south of the Jones Tower. Saturday saw yellowfin tuna and dolphin caught in the Virginia area. Blues have been hot and cold. Solid catches of blues were had Saturday with fish to five pounds on the charter boats **Kristen** and **Nan-Sea**. Blues are also being trolled off the local beaches and are being baited at 17 Fathoms. Outstanding fluking off Reis Park and Ambrose Channel with 3-5 pound sea bass mixed in. A gillnetter working in 20' of water off Jones caught a white shark in its net which dressed out at 95 pounds.

A call from the charter boats **Lady J III** and **IV** told of good bluefishing on their day and night trips this week with a slowing down on Sunday. Best action was SW of the NB and off the Jersey Coast. It was jigs days and bait at night. The week's fluke trips were done both locally and at Ambrose Channel. This week the boat sailed the following groups: Mike McMahn, Fred Lindelburg, Chris Hoffman, Frank Shine, Steve Kriegel, Ernest Simmons, Camp Tanglewood, Baking Industries Executive Club, Canadian Imperial Bank, Forest Park Inn Fishing Club and Tony Chiappano.

Bob at the **Freeport Boatmen's Association** relayed word of the very good fluking aboard the **Super Spray II**, working mainly local areas with plenty of throwbacks and a good number of big keeper fish. Reynold's Channel and Jones Inlet were particularly good. Working at the Ambrose Channel, the charter fleet has been taking a lot of 2-6 pound fluke with an 80 to 90 percent keeper ratio. Night blues have been very good SE of 17. Good sea bass and ling bottom fishing. Offshore, good catches of dolphin and yellowfin have been had. On the **Atlantic**, a group from New Mexico had 12 skipjack and a 65 pound yellowfin tuna Thursday.

Bill Russo on his boat "La-Li" fishing 5 miles NE of the HA bagged a 110 pound yellowfin tuna for 14 year old Mike Wilens. A 70 pound yellowfin tuna tested the muscles of Larry Wilens while Howard Baker had to settle for a 105 mako.

In nearby **Point Lookout**, Capt. Al Lindroth of the **Capt. Al** reports excellent catches of bluefish all week long with only Sunday a little tough due to the storm front moving in. Rich Whitehead on Thursday had 42 blues to 7 pounds which he took home to

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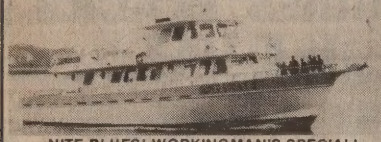

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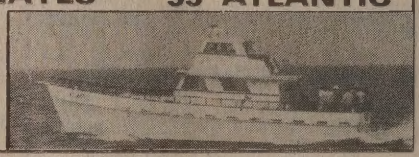

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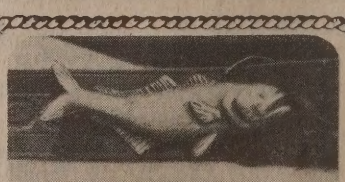

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Plainview with him. A good catch was had Saturday with over 400 blues taken on the boat. Night trips have been up and down.

At **Scotty's Fishing Station** we hear of large fluke on incoming being caught in the back. Kevin O'Gara nailed a 3½ pounder on killie/squid combo at the Point Lookout Bridge. Snappers are in abundance in Reynolds while blacks and sea bass are being caught at the bridges on fiddlers and sandworms. Lots of BCCs in Middle Bay.

Capt. Dennis of the charter boat **Marie III** told of the fluking being super week at Ambrose Channel, catching 300 to 600 total fish a day with a 70 percent keeper ratio. Lauren Chopyk, age 11, had 17 keepers. Mike Chopyk, age 6, had 10 keepers. Jay Lewis took Monday's pool with a 5 pound 8 ounce fluke. Chris Kalb was hi-hook of the week with 20 keepers. George Knittle Jr. had to be satisfied with only 18 keepers. Big fish of the week was a 6 pound 8 ounce mini-doormat for Bob Day. Both tides worked all week. Friday's bluefish trip for the Fuzzy Alber group had excellent action offshore of Sea Bright on fish 2-5 pounds, catches averaging 10-20 per man. The skipper says he still has some choice weekdays available for blues and fluke.

Aboard the **Miss Point Lookout II**, Capt. Ron says the blues were great every night this week, fish 4-12 pounds. Wednesday night saw Hank Warrington with 52. Felicia Quagliariello had 60 and the pool. Saturday night 10 members of the Brust Family had roughly 200 blues including a 10 pound pool winner. Seven members of the Grimsby family boated 162 blues. Fluking ran from fair to very good this week with a 5½ pounder grabbing Tuesday's pool. On Wednesday, Les Goldman had a 3 pound pool fish. The weekend was sporadic. Regular Don had 6 keepers. George Nachover had 3½ pound pool fish and 6 year old Jamie Friedman had a 3 pound pool fish.

Capt. Clem of the **Island Park** open boat **Commodore** was excited about the fantastic fluking he has had this past week at Ambrose Channel with catches ranging from 15 to 20 keepers per man with pools in the 7-8 pound range. Absolutely super was his description of this week's fishing. Tom LaStrada bagged 32 on Friday. Lots of fares had 25 to 28 keepers with both tides working. There are a few real doormats around said Clem. The skipper also heard that the bay fishing has been very good and that the fluke are now coming off the shoals and we should have 2-3 weeks of very good bay fluking. The boat has been ocean fishing only when the weather permitted. Please note that the Commodore will be sailing on Labor Day.

Bernie at **Long Beach Boat Rentals** spoke of very good fluke fishing throughout Reynolds and also at the Tin Can. Paul Kass bagged a 4 pounder, as part of a total catch of 25

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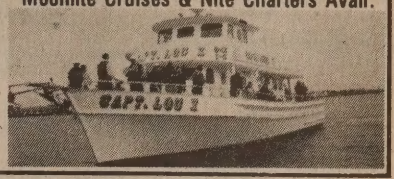

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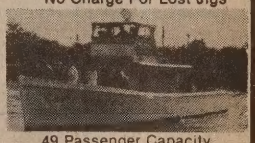

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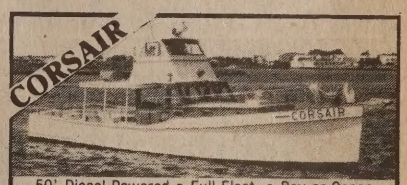

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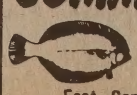

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HOWARD BEACH

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keepers taken by Paul, Scott Rosenstein and Charlie Goldberg Saturday on spearing/squid combos. Hot spot in Reynolds has been buoys and 7 and 5 on white bait. Some very good fluke catches also for those anchoring up and bunker chumming. There are still weaks and blues under the roaving bunker schools in Reynolds. Gary Sensor boated 2 yellowfin tuna in the 25 range and a 35 pound wahoo. Green Machines did the trick 5 miles north of the HA. Plenty of BCCs and snappers in the channel.

Charlie at **Beckmann's Tackle** in **Lynbrook** knew of a lot of good fluke being taken at Ambrose Channel and off Playland. He also told of some very decent fluking in the western end of Reynolds. One customer sharking at Cholera hooked up with 9 shark, landing 4. These were all small guys to 80 pounds. Plenty of snappers and blue claw crabs.

In **Franklin Square**, Fred at **Cast-A-Way Bait and Tackle** also told of the super fluking at Ambrose. Fred, along with Mike Dolsimer, Henry and Lou, in Fred's boat "Lucky Laura II" had 30 keeper fluke in 3 hours to 4 pounds 10 ounces, with 4 of these fish being over 3 pounds. Big sandeels combined with long fluke strips accounted for the bigger fish. There was about an 80 percent keeper ratio, he said. On Saturday, Tom Contino boated 30 keepers to 3 pounds 4 ounces.

NEW YORK BIGHT

Artie at **Cross Bay Bait and Tackle** tells of decent fluking in the Marine Parkway Bridge area at Buoy 4 and also the North and South Channel area on killies. Decent hand sized porgies on worms. Snapper action very good on spearing while cocktail blues to 4 pounds are hitting tins best. Big blue claw crabs off the bridges and blackfish being taken again at the footings of the Marine Parkway Bridge.

We hear from Pete Casini at **Fishing Unlimited Bait and Tackle** of the nice fluking in 30 to 40 feet of water at the Marine Parkway Bridge where Stan Switalski boated 28 keepers to 6 pounds on spearing/squid combos. Tony DeRose had 26 keepers and 2 sea bass. The Fasano Bros. also had good fluking in this same area. Pete Casini, James Farmer, Ken Blake and Tony LeBracka had 6 longfin and one bigeye tuna on the Thermocline.

The **Howard Beach** party boat **Capt. Mike** reports super fluking all week long at Romer Shoals with all big fish. Tuesday saw Joe Favarola of Ozone Park with a 7 pounder. On Wednesday Jack Lyons of Ozone Park had a 6 pounder. Thursday was a bell ringer of a day with 10-15 fluke on at a time. Glendale angler Tony Vetrano had an 8½ pounder while Joe Kabelka of Ridgewood smiled with his 7½ pounder. On Sunday Alex Olenick of Ozone Park hoisted a fat 7 pounder. Mike said there were loads of 5 and 6 pound fish and they hit on both tides on any bait. This is really dynamite fishing.

To the west in **Sheepshead Bay**, we hear from Capt. Tom of the **Pilot II** that his fares have been having excellent catches of sea bass along the Jersey Coast, fish running 1-2 pounds, 25 to 30 per man, along with good catches of porgies from 1 to 1½ pounds, 8 to 10 a man. In an occasional bail-out situation, fares can load up on big ling to 5 pounds. The boat's evening bluefish trips have been doing fantastic said Tom with catches running 25 to 30 fish for some fares, fish 2 to 15 pounds with a lot of gaffers Thursday, Friday and Saturday night.

Capt. Walt Wiegand of the **Flamingo III** said that Tuesday was a fantastic bonanza of weakfish on the boat, that they really "fell into them." To top it off, there were also 17 to 20 pound bluefish which provided chaios for a solid hour of super-wild fishing. On Wednesday 20 more weaks were brought aboard. The blues themselves have been erratic with Thursday and Friday good but Saturday tough. The night blues have improved over the weekend on fish 3-6 pounds.

Capt. George of the open boat **Pastime II** described the fluking as excellent for the last three weeks with fish to 10½ pounds (genuine doormat quality) at Ambrose Channel. Best hook bait has been spearing/squid combos and both tides have been working. Full buckets are not uncommon. Customers catches have been ranging from 15 to 20 keepers per man. There were lots of 3 pounders taken Sunday and there doesn't seem to be any let-up in the action.

Sal at **Stella Maris Tackle** just east of the Fleet told of solid bluefishing at 17 Fathoms and super fluke activity at Ambrose and in Debs. Some porgies on the inshore and offshore wrecks and in the Marine Parkway Bridge area on worms. Sea bass and blackfish continue to be a good item on the party boats said Sal.

North Shore REPORT

with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

The word is bluefish, porgies and fluke, with a smattering of weakfish. While bluefish and fluke continue to dominate catches in the western sound, outstanding porgy catches, with an upswing in blues and weaks were noted in eastern areas.

WESTERN SOUND

John, at **Jack's Bait and Tackle** in **City Island** was ecstatic over the tremendous amount of porgies right in his back yard, declaring that "the bottom is paved with porgies!" All rental skiffs and private crafts are returning with fantastic catches, with blood and sandworms working equally well. Bluefishing is spectacular,

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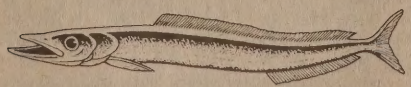

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with blues of ten to twenty pounds schooled and boiling on top. An alligator of twenty-two pounds was caught by Larry Rufa, fishing under the light at Execution Rock on Friday. A reminder that anglers hoping to fish the WICC Annual Bluefish Tournament can register at **Jack's** until 5:00 p.m. on Friday. Fluke appeared to have slowed a bit this past week, however many fish in the two to three pound range were caught, although there was a greater percentage of shorts the past week.

On the open boats, **North Star**, has been fishing to the east and returning with buckets of scup per person. The **Apache** and **Young America** also report good steady fishing with porgies, bluefish and flounder, while the **Klondike III** continues with excellent catches of blues most days.

At **John's Gun and Tackle** in **New Rochelle**, John spoke of blues to eighteen pounds caught by Dominick and his brother in Larchmont Harbor, while taking advantage of a bluefish attack on a school of frenzied bunker. The pair caught two dozen large blues and lost as many. Recently Jack Kincaid and his friend Reilly fished on ''Shorty's Revenge'' at ''Middle Reef'' and New Rochelle Harbor for twenty blues to fifteen pounds. This pair usually drifts live or chunked bunker around bunker schools, often returning with a dozen or more large blues per trip. Plenty of porgies are everywhere, with pan size fish the norm. A few blackfish are now numbered among the catch. Fluking remains steady, from Steppingstone to all points east. Snappers are getting bigger!

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

Eileen Fleishman, speaking for **Greenlawn Sports Shop** in **Greenlawn**, heard of a massive school of giant bluefish, eleven pounds and over, which were pushing schools of bunker through the entrance of Northport Harbor on the weekend. On Saturday night, an angler fishing Sand City at Price Bend (west side of Eaton's Neck) caught two fifteen pound blues casting a Sekora eel. Smaller blues were caught on Creek Chubs and Rebels. Good fluking continues at the Lloyd Harbor Light House. Lots of porgies can be found in Northport Bay at Buoy 10.

Many persons came into **Bowman's Sporting Goods** in **Greenlawn** to tell Tom Bowman about the large school of fifteen to twenty pound blues that ''invaded'' Northport Harbor on Sunday while chasing bunker. One angler checked in with twenty-five blues, all reported to weigh over fifteen pounds. Since these are huge fish, 9.0 hooks with tough wire leaders are suggested to drift live bunker or chunks. Small blues have been catchable every morning and

evening from Sand City, with poppers providing the most fun, a red gill teaser allowing the possibility of a double header. Jiggers are connecting with five or six pound choppers at the OB Buoy at Eaton's Neck, while trolling umbrellas (any color tubes) between Can 13 to the Loading Platform is also successful.

Kenny Katz and his wife drifted on the "Reelist", across the channel outside Centerport Harbor for eleven fluke, top weight four pounds. Bob, at **Huntington Prop** heard of porgy catches of twenty to thirty fish a man near Buoy 4. Deep holes are holding lots of fish about a pound each. Many blues, some of eighteen pounds, are chasing bunker off Sand City. Last Tuesday, Marty Brodsky and his son fished just east of the ruins for a nice catch of big blues. Nick Vanola picked up a five pound weakfish, drifting a sandworm on Sunday in the same area.

George Valentine, of **Four Winds Bait and Tackle** in **Huntington Station**, heard that bluefish of ten pounds and up were choking the local harbors Sunday morning, chasing bunker into Lloyd Harbor and Northport Bay with plenty of fish at Sand City, Duck Island and Asharoken. Diamond jigs were the best bet for blues, mostly two to six pounds, with an occasional larger, at the OB Buoy to Buoy 11b, with equal success at Buoy 15, Lloyds and off the Nissequogue River. A few weaks were located at 11B, with several caught on bunker in Northport Bay.

Captain John Alberda, of **Sound Charters**, reported very good bluefishing all week long on half day charters, with a few weakfish around. On Wednesday, Roger and Matt Walmsley and Lou Valendo fished on the T.J. for ninety blues weighing from three to twelve pounds. Others enjoying this wild bluefishing included Mike Tobin and his daughter Nicole on her sixteenth birthday, Jack Lei Breight with his youngsters Brian and Kirt (who caught a ten pound weakfish), and Doug Maize and his friends. Captain Alberda noted that the largest blues were caught at slack tide. While blues are raiding the harbors almost daily for bunker, there seems to be alot of butterfish in the Sound. Best tackle on both charter and open boat trips seems to be four ounce jigs with thirty pound test line.

Since the parking lot of **Caraftis Fishing Station** was the location of the weigh station for the North Shore Anglers bluefish tournament, lots of blues were on parade. The largest bluefish seen on Sunday was caught on a bunker chunk from West Meadow beach by Gordon Thompson. Unfortunately, the 16.11 pound fish was not a tournament winner, since Gordon neglected to enter the tournament. Lots of small blues were jigged all day at Buoy 11, and from Buoy 9 to Shoreham according to John Caraftis. Chris Guldenpfennig jigged a three pound three ounce fluke while trying for blues at Buoy 11 on Sunday.

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Plenty of porgies were located in deep water off Old Field Point (fish between the two buoys) with anglers in rental skiffs returning with two to four buckets of fish per boat. Very large humpback porgies, to three pounds, were caught at Crane's Neck by anglers chumming for blues. Apparently the large porgies favored chunked bunker baited hooks.

One-hundred and twenty-one anglers fished in the Seventh Annual North Shore Anglers Bluefish Contest with cash and other prizes won by twenty-six for large blues. First place bluefish weighed 13.8 pounds, caught by Joe Piccarillo. Dennis Charbonneau took second with a 12.15 pound fish, Robert Koliner's 12.8 pound blue took third place. Robert DeMarco qualified for a special prize with his 12.2 blue. The only weakfish, which weighed eight pounds eight ounces, was caught by Henry Kozen. In the Junior Division, Brad Camilleri won first place with his seven pound four ounce blue. Second place went to Richard Aronofsky and third to Chris Guldenpfennig.

Al Sturges, of **Captain Al's Complete Angler** in **Miller Place** spoke of very large blues, some to fourteen pounds, with weakfish to thirteen pounds, located by Angelo who was fishing the Middle Grounds on "Gyro". The big blues, which were feeding on snappers, were located to the west of the lighthouse, and were caught jigging. Fluking is sporadic at Buoy 9 and Cedar Beach, with some days quite poor and good days up to ten keepers a trip. Many small porgies were caught from shore at Miller Place, Rocky Point and Shoreham beaches during the week. Miller Place residents Dan and Don Waldeck fished Montauk's Butterfish Hole with Mike Rubinstein, returning with a ninety-five pound yellowfin tuna. The group reported many other hook ups broken off.

Captain Roy Cash reported generally good steady fishing on daily bottom fishing trips on the **Port Jeff Ace**, with high hook usually about fourty porgies. Occasional weaks, blackfish and fluke add variety to the trips, and usually win the pool. Last Friday an eight pound blackfish, caught by Eddie Padovana of Kings Park took the pool, with a five pound nine ounce weakfish caught by Bill Matos coming in second. Catches on night bluefish trips are spotty with some nights locating a bluefish bonanza and other nights slow.

In order to accomodate anglers searching for the $10,000 fish in this weekend's annual WICC Bluefish Contest, the **Port Jeff Ace** has scheduled special bluefish trips on both Friday and Saturday nights at 11 p.m. Since space is limited, reservations are a must! Method of fishing will be chumming, fare $30.

Captain Frank of the **My Yacht II** has had steady catches of three to ten pound blues on both open and charter trips. A good catch of very large (to twelve pounds) blackfish was noted at

Sailing from World's Fair Marina
Pier 1 ★ Flushing ★ (Across from Shea Stadium)

Big - *Fast* - Comfortable 65' Open Boat

"RELIABLE"

BLUES 7 A.M. DAILY

- Latest Electronics including state-of-the-art Color Scope
- Ladies Accommodations
- Full Galley
- Tackle Available
- Sr Citizen's & Children's Discount Every Day
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Moonlight Sails

$20.00 per person Includes Free Buffet

Sails 7 P.M. to 11 P.M. Fri., Sat. & Sun. eves.
(Reservations suggested)

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Capt. George Pilkington
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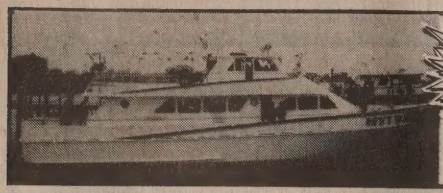
SHEEPSHEAD BAY



TUNA TRIPS! Tues. & Thurs. Starts Oct. Reserve Now!

THE NEW **BETTY W IV**

A Superfast Supercruiser built for fishing & comfort
All elect. • Ladies accom. • Color T.V.
Full Galley • Sun deck • Call for Info.

BLUES 6:30 A.M. EVERYDAY & 7:30 P.M. EVERY NIGHT

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SHEEPSHEAD BAY • PIER 1

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7 A.M. DAILY

FREE BAIT & RODS
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Capt. Butch (718) 743-6170 after 6 P.M.

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PILOT II

PORGIES SEA BASS • BLACKS 6 A.M. DAILY

★ GREEN CRABS ONBOARD ★

3/4 NITE BLUES 5 PM - 12 AM DAILY

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HELEN H

100' All Aluminum Fast Supercruiser

BLUES 6 A.M. & 7 P.M. DAILY

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Restaurant • Lg. Sun Deck

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Fully Equipped • Pier 1

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OPEN BOAT ★ 1/2 DAY SPECIALISTS

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FLUKE 8 A.M. & 1 P.M.

FREE BAIT • CUSTOM RODS • NITE CHTRS. AVAIL.
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6 PASSENGER LIMIT

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CAPTAIN TOM HANSEN

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DAYS / NIGHTS

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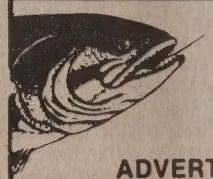

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ADVERTISE IN

THE **Fisherman**

Ralph's Fishing Station, along with porgies over three pounds. Call Captain Frank for information on combination black and blue charters.

Captain Fred Mildner reports that bluefish action remains good on the **Hawk Eye** with coolers full of six and seven pound bluefish. Recent charters include a family group, Jim, Jimmy and Jay Jubenville, who with Fran Knaggs, treated Ed Jubenville to a bluefish trip on his visit from Michigan.

Ray, at **Warren's Archery and Fishing** in **Selden**, saw a great fluke catch early last week, made by Denny, who was fishing among the rocks at Miller Place Beach, after getting skunked at Buoy 9. Total catch made at incoming tide, was sixty fluke, top weight eight and a half pounds. Cocktail blues were likely to be anywhere, while large blues, some to thirteen pounds were located at the Middle Grounds with a few weakfish.

Al, at the **Sportsmen's Center** in **Medford**, saw plenty of small blues in tight to local north shore beaches, from Port Jefferson eastward. Use tin lures. Lots of snappers were reported at local docks and piers, with the Brookhaven Town Pier at Stony Brook mentioned as a particular hot spot.

Bill at **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** heard of large blues, ten pounds or so, on bunker chunks at Mt. Sinai and Port Jefferson. Trolling had been spotty on the weekend. Bunker chunking in the area of Flax Pond resulted in huge dogfish (sand sharks), many over ten pounds in weight. While these are good eating, they must be bled, gutted and iced as caught to maintain perfect flavor.

NORTH FORK

If the amount of ice sold at a fishing station to care for a day's catch is any indication of the amount of fish caught, the Peconic Bay area gave up a lot of porgies on the weekend, since there was a run on bags of ice at **Captain Marty's Fishing Station**. Mrs. Anna Loria saw catches ranging to eighty porgies caught both in the North and South Race. A few summer weaks were also reported.

Chris, at **Warren's Tackle Center** in **Aquebogue** heard of an increase in weakfish catches in the Sound both east and west of Mattituck Inlet, with five or so weaks per person by anglers fishing sandworms off the beach in the evenings. Porgies are holding up at the Firing Range and Motel, with some incidental blackfish catches mixed. Cocktail size blues were caught from both boat and beach on the weekend. No reports of fluke in the Mattituck area of the sound, however, no one is trying.

Best porgy catches brought into

Charlie's **Mattituck Fishing Station** were by anglers who knew the area well and fished either Cooper Rock or the Firing Range. Several rental skiffs returned with two or more buckets of scup. A few weakfish were brought in over the weekend, with blackfish to six pounds. Bluefish are plentiful at the Northville pipeline. The only mention of fluke were shorts.

Ron Petersen claimed that area porgies were a bit larger on the weekend, with catches improving to a bucket a person by anglers fishing the Firing Range and Motel on skiffs from Petersen's **Mattituck Inlet Fishing Station**. Large bluefish, some to eleven pounds were discovered near Buoy 5, while a school of weakfish was discovered near the motel. Weaks to twelve pounds were hitting porgy rigs. One angler, who jigged for weaks returned with eight fish, top weight twelve pounds. Drifted squid strips were also attractive to these fish. No mention of fluke.

Ace Cottrel of **Port of Egypt Fishing Station** remarked on the increase of porgy catches in the Peconics. One angler who usually fishes to the east, tried nearby Cedar Beach Point (northwest of Jessups Neck) where he discovered a mother load of big porgies in twenty feet of water. Cocktail size blues are roaming around the Peconics, with pure luck the major factor in discovering their location. On the fluke scene, most anglers have given up on Gardiner's, since even the shorts are slowing down. Better action is had at Cerebrus Shoals, Constellation Rocka and Montauk waters. A few weakfish were discovered north of the Orient Point lighthouse, according to Ace. On the charter boat scene, Captain John Thompson of the "Fish Tales" jigged thirty-five blues to nine pounds in Pigeon Rip, then caught about one-hundred medium size porgies on the south side of Plum Island. Captain Pete Izzo of the **Boanne II** fished the Dump on the north side of Plumb Island, where "all the porgies you wanted" were located. Captain Ed on the "Sea Boots" liked Constellation Rock and the south side of Plum. A recent charter counted 475 porgies caught at these locations. The north side of Plum Island holds a mixed bag of sea bass, porgies and blackfish.

Shore bound anglers reporting to Ruth White at **Greenport**'s **A.P. White Bait Shop** were concentrating on porgies with a few blackfish and flounder caught in the Sound off Truman's Beach, Petty's Bite, Clarks Beach and near the Soundview Motel. Boaters did well with blues fishing Plum Gut or the Race with eight ounce jigs. A few weakfish were under the blues. The only fluke action mentioned concerned Montauk waters, some north of Plum Island and Fishers Island. Peter Kitsch Senior had luck at Fishers on Tuesday, bagging nineteen fluke, top weight five pounds. Porgies were on the agenda for some charter boats. Roosevelt Brooks reported that his

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NEW • FAST • CLEAN • COMFORTABLE
SR., JR., & GROUP RATES

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BLUES! 6:30 A.M. DAILY
7 P.M. FRI. & SAT. NITES

— OWNED AND RUN BY THE WIEGAND FAMILY —
3 Generations (over 40 yrs.) satisfying the fishing public!

CAPT. WALTER,
BOB, STEVE
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Knapp Street Exit,
Belt Parkway,
Turn in at Lobster House

New **WHITE EAGLE III**

FLUKE 9 A.M. DAILY
BLUES 4:30 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
THURS., FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY
65' OPEN BOAT • FULL RESTAURANT
ALL ELECTRONICS • COLOR T.V.
NEW - FAST - CLEAN - COMFORTABLE
CATERING TO FAMILIES • COURTEOUS CREW
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BIG 70'
ELSIE K III
FLUKE - 7 A.M. EVERY DAY
• Free Custom Rods & Parking
• Color Fish Scope for Pass. Viewing
• Sr. Citizen's Rates Every Day
Sailing from Tamaqua Fishing Station, Belt PKWY. to Knapp Str. Exit & Follow Signs

BROOKLYN'S NEWEST, LARGEST CHARTERBOAT
65' MISS MOORE
— Now Booking For '86 Season —
SPECIALIZING IN JUMBO FLOUNDER & FLUKE CHARTERS
— Choice Dates Now Available —
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East Wind
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20 Years Local Experience
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SUNGLO II
FLUKE AND BLUES
—UP TO 20 PASSENGERS—
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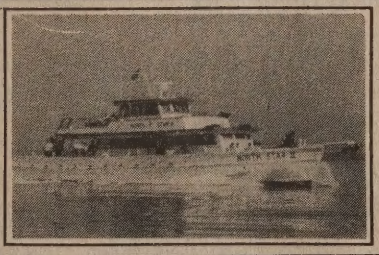
CITY ISLAND



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PORGIES & BLACKS
Daily 7:30 AM from City Island
80' Open Boat • Complete Electronics
★ RESTAURANT ★
(Located at 1st traffic light near Jack's Bait)
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NEW ROCHELLE

★ BLUEFISH ★
Klondike VIII
SAILS 7 A.M. DAILY
CAPT. PETE PEARSON (914) 738-4593
END OF FORT SLOCUM ROAD
OFF OF PELHAM RD., NEW ROCHELLE

APACHE ★ BOTTOM FISHING AT ITS BEST! ★

BAIT • TACKLE • RESTAURANT
DAILY 8:00 AM
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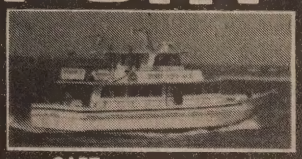
LADIES ACCOMMODATED
PORGIES & BLACKS
SEAHORSE RESTAURANT
FREE PARKING

PORT JEFFERSON

PORT JEFF ACE



DAILY FROM PORT JEFF MARINA

8 A.M. BOTTOM FISHING SPECIALISTS
PORGIES • BLACKS • SEABASS

4:30 P.M. SUNSET SPECIAL
BLUES & WEAKS

TOPS IN NORTH SHORE FISHING!

CAPT. ROY CASH (516) 744-1626

★ SPECIAL SENIOR & CHILD RATES ★ RESTAURANT & TACKLE ABOARD ★ SUPER CLEAN & COMFORTABLE FAMILY BOAT ★

MATTITUCK

55' CHARTER BOAT
CAPT. BOB
44 Pass. Capacity • Heated Cabin

JUMBO PORGIES
BLACKS & SEABASS

— BOOK NOW FOR —
FALL PIPELINE BLACKFISHING

JUMBO PORGIES RIGHT NOW!
OPEN BOAT 8 AM
Every Tues. & Thurs.

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BOOK NOW FOR FLUKE, BLACKS, SEA-BASS, FLOUNDER, PORGIES & BLUES

OPEN BOAT 8 A.M. EVERY DAY
PROWLER
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NEW 28' DIESEL POWERED GROVERCRAFT
North Shore Charters
Full Elect. • Tackle Aboard • 6 Man Limit
Full or Half Day Charters
FLOUNDER • BLUES • WEAKS • FLUKE
BLACKS • PORGIES
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FAST, COMFORTABLE 23' SEACRAFT
SOUND CHARTERS
1-4 Man Charters • Full Elec • All Tackle Provided
BASS • BLUES • WEAKS • FLUKE • BLACKS
Full Day • Half Day • Dia. Jigging Our Specialty
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SPECIAL OPEN BOAT - 8 A.M.
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MY YACHT II
NORTH SHORE'S LARGEST SPORTFISHERMAN
CHARTERS UP TO 12 PASSENGERS
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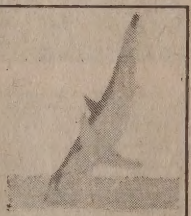
HOOK UP With A WINNER!
Call (516) 725-4200 to advertise in
THE Fisherman



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HURRICANE
45' HATTERAS — LOADED!
All Latest Elect. & Custom Tackle
6 Passenger Limit
FISHING L.I. SOUND & OFFSHORE
CAPT. TONY
Days 914-948-7349
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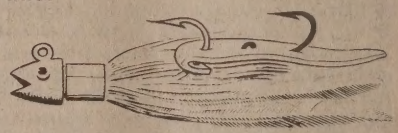
group caught 506 porgies on the **Prowler**, with one man in the group catching 105 himself. Nathan Bell and his group caught two five gallon buckets of scup on the "We Go" during the week. On Friday, May Giahson accounted for 230 porgies. Sunday's trip to Constellation Rock with Betty Rickert and her friends returned with a mixed bag that included a seven and three quarter pound blackfish.

Mrs. White stated that judging from the amount of ice she is selling to anglers getting off the Greenport and Orient party boats at the end of the day, fishing is very good. The **Brand X** was fishing New London, **Peconic Star** Constellation Rock, and **Prime Time III** fluking at Montauk, with all reporting good results.

Capt. Larry Ciccotto of the **Orient Point** based open boat **Prime Time III** called to imform his customers that the phone number listed in his ad is currently out of order. It will remain so until the end of the current phone company strike. See his ad for sailing info.



Surf REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

There is a good chance that summer's grip on the surf scene will be softened by the effects of Hurricane Charley, headed in our direction as we were preparing to go to press. In fact, the south shore surf showed some encouraging signs late last week and on the weekend as bluefish harrassed schools of bunker and snappers along a stretch of beach reaching from Moriches through the Hamptons. Some of the action also spilled over to Montauk's beaches.

According to Johnny Kronuch at **Johnny's Tackle Shop** in **Montauk** there was a good shot of 3 to 8 pound bluefish along the sand beaches during the day Thursday and again in the evening. The fish also appeared in the Lighthouse area in the evening. On Friday, some casters got in an inning with the blues as they chased bunker along Gin Beach. The only bass news at the Point concerned some 8 to 10 pound class fish taken Thursday morning in the vicinity of Evans Rock.

George from **Bayview Marine and Tackle** in **Sag Harbor** reported that blues raided the beach on Friday night from Mecox in Water Mill to Georgica Beach in East Hampton. The fish were taken on tins, plugs and

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet . . . −0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." −0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	9:40	10:00	10:30	10:50	10:25	10:40	11:10	11:35	1:20	1:35	12:40	1:05	9:30	9:50	8/21
FRI.	10:25	10:40	11:15	11:35	11:10	11:25	11:55	—	1:55	2:15	1:30	1:50	10:15	10:35	8/22
SAT.	11:10	11:25	—	12:05	11:55	—	12:20	12:45	2:40	3:00	2:15	2:35	11:00	11:20	8/23
SUN.	11:55	—	12:20	12:45	12:10	12:45	1:05	1:35	3:25	3:40	3:00	3:20	11:45	—	8/24
MON.	12:10	12:35	1:00	1:30	1:00	1:30	1:55	2:25	4:15	4:25	3:45	4:10	12:05	12:30	8/25
TUES.	12:55	1:20	1:50	2:15	1:40	2:15	2:50	3:15	5:05	5:20	4:35	5:00	12:50	1:25	8/26
WED.	1:40	2:10	2:40	3:10	2:30	3:00	3:45	4:15	6:10	6:25	5:30	5:55	1:45	2:20	8/27
THURS.	2:35	3:00	3:35	4:10	3:25	3:55	4:50	5:10	7:20	7:35	6:30	6:50	2:45	3:20	8/28

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	−0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	−0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	−0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	−0 12
Seaside Park	−0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	−0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	−0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	−0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	−0 02
Rehobeth Beach	−0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
Democrat Point	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42
Falkner Island	−0 13
Sachem Head	−0 10
Branford Harbor	−0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	−0 08
Milford Harbor	−0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	−0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	−0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	−0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	−0 14
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point, north side	−1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	−0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	−0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	−0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28
Port Chester	−0 09
Mamaroneck	−0 08
New Rochelle	−0 24
Davids Island	−0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	−0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	−0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	−1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	−0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	−0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	−0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	−0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 8/21	6:14	7:53
FRI. 8/22	6:15	7:51
SAT. 8/23	6:16	7:49
SUN. 8/24	6:17	7:47
MON. 8/25	6:18	7:45
TUE. 8/26	6:19	7:43
WED. 8/27	6:20	7:42

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 8/21	9:00PM	8:05AM
FRI. 8/22	9:20PM	9:10AM
SAT. 8/23	9:40PM	10:15AM
SUN. 8/24	10:05PM	11:20AM
MON. 8/25	10:30PM	12:25PM
TUE. 8/26	11:00PM	1:30PM
WED. 8/27	11:35PM	2:30PM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
8/5	8/13	8/19	8/27

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold type-face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	7:00	12:45	7:25	1:10
Fri.	7:45	1:35	8:15	2:00
Sat.	8:35	2:25	9:00	2:45
Sun.	9:25	3:10	9:50	3:35
Mon.	10:05	3:55	10:35	4:20
Tues.	10:55	4:45	11:25	5:10
Wed.	11:45	5:35	—	6:00
Thurs.	12:15	6:20	12:30	6:45

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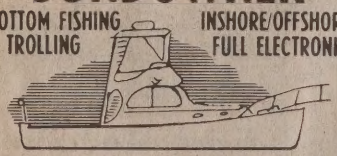
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jigs and a few bass were mixed with them as well. Many casters reported that the choppers were herding schools of bunker onto the beach.

Tom Speckenbach of **Speck's Bait and Tackle** in **Southampton** said that local casters cashed in on the bluefish blitz on both Thursday and Friday which stretched from Shinnecock Inlet east to Sagaponack. Most of the fish in this area fell into the 10 to 12 pound class and were taken on plugs, tins or whatever else you wanted to throw at them. They too were intent on harassing schools of bunker and snappers.

From **J & J Tackle** in **Patchogue** Paul Graniello said that several of his casting clientele reported blues on the beach from Moriches to Shinnecock Inlet on both Friday and Saturday. Most of the fish range between 5 and 8 pounds but there were some bigger fish mixed in as well as some smaller fish. Bunker again were the prime target of the choppers. Much of the activity was centered at the inlets where diamond jigs accounted for much of the action. John Rossi stopped to weigh a 14.2 pound chopper which he took on a tin at Hot Dog Beach in Hampton Bays on Saturday.

At Cedar Beach inside Fire Island Inlet, the fishing was more typical of the picky summer action with an occasional large chopper reported on bait by Carl Miller of **Smokey's Tackle Shop** in **Bay Shore**. Tom Healy of **Augie's Tackle Shop** in **Babylon** added that Ava 27 and tube combos accounted for a few small blues picked at Cedar this past week. One reliable source reported he witnessed casters taking blues from the beach at Democrat Point on Sunday morning as clouds of birds worked over a large school of fish.

Since no one filed any reports from the west, we will turn our attention to the North Shore where George Valentine of **Four Winds Tackle** in **Huntington** reported that very few surfmen have been out on the beaches—typical of the August doldrums. He knew of an occasional blue picked on bait at Caumsett, Crab Meadow and Makamah beaches.

To the east, Stan Hentschel of **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** said that small blues from 1½ to 4 pounds have been popping up early and late in the day from Miller Place to Shoreham. The fish are being taken on poppers as well as tins but its been anyone's guess as to where they will show on a given day. A few bigger blues in the 9-11 pound range being picked at night on chunk bait. A fair number of school bass around on night tides but very few people taking an interest in this fishing as a direct result of the recently imposed possession ban. One customer spent 2 nights on a Smithtown Beach and reported taking 11 bass to 9 pounds on 6" Bombers.

According to **AP White Bait Shop** in **Greenport** there was a good showing of blues along Southold Town Beaches through much of the weekend.

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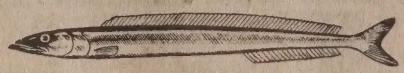

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Freshwater REPORT with Tom Schlichter

Carp, catfish and panfish continue to provide solid action for those who seek them. Bass and trout, however, remain somewhat sluggish with some anglers hitting an occasional fair sized fish but most catching only shorts, if anything at all.

Bill Beckmann of **Beckmann's Bait and Tackle** in **Lynbrook**, reports a pair of Lynbrook anglers enjoyed some solid action with several species of fish at Hempstead Lake early last week. Working plastic frogs, nightcrawlers, and bucktail and pork frog combos, they managed to connect with pickerel of twelve inches and seventeen inches, an eighteen inch largemouth bass and a fourteen inch smallmouth bass. Locally, anglers continue to pick away at panfish and small bass.

Over at **Cast-A-Way Bait and Tackle** in **Franklin Square**, Fred Mello told us that anglers experienced slow fishing for bass but panfish and carp were both available in local lakes and ponds. A few anglers also reported good action with carp in several lakes in the Bayshore area. Anglers dunking corn kernals are taking a few catfish in Hempstead Lake.

From **Causeway Bait and Tackle**, **Wantagh**, Mike Nicoletti informs us of solid bass action with medium sized fish in North Twin Lake. Fishermen here are employing large killies fished on a weedless hook without a bobber. Little bass action anywhere else. Anglers looking to catch a few panfish are finding their quarry receptive to nightcrawlers dunked in Mill Pond. A few catfish have been mixed in here as well.

At **Peppy's Bait and Tackle** in **East Islip**, Jim Romano told us he weighed in a beautiful 5.5 pound rainbow for Robert Bellini. The big trout was taken inside Connetquot River State Park on Wednesday. Bass fishing at Brookwook Hall Pond has produced fair action with shorts and a few keepers. Anglers using worms at this location are also scoring well with panfish.

According to Fred Kruse of **Pine Grove Outfitters**, more than one hundred youngsters participated in a fishing clinic along the shore of Lake Ronkonkoma. The clinic, held on Sunday by the Long Island Bassmasters and New York State DEC, produced quite a few panfish and even a couple of bass. Largest fish of the day was a surprise 3.5 pound smallmouth bass taken by Danny Dost. In general, bass fishing has been a little slow on the big lake with catches better on overcast days.

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Panfishing has been fair while white perch action has been red hot. Anglers using worm baits are scoring with fifteen to twenty fish per person. Still no tiger muskies reported this summer. Does anyone know where they're hiding?

The crew at **J&R Sports Center** in **Oakdale**, relayed word that quite a few brookies in the fourteen to eighteen inch range were culled from Connetquot River State Park this week. Trout fishing in Rattlesnake Creek was also productive. I spoke with Ron Pantol on Sunday and he told me he had just taken a one pound native rainbow trout from the creek on a zug bug. Ron also connected with a few small pickerel in Patchogue Lake during the week. The "plowman Family", Bob, Trisch and Michelle, reported fishing a few East Islip ponds on Thursday where they scored well with small bass and sunnies.

From Paul Graniello at **J&J Bait and Tackle**, **Patchogue**, we learned that Gene Romeo clicked with a 4.4 pound largemouth bass in Cannon Lake. Bass fishing at Patchogue Lake has slowed a little but West Lake seems to be picking up the slack. Nightcrawlers have accounted for several decent catches in recent days.

Out east at the **Fisherman's Deli**, George Devlin reports little change from last week. Bass fishing is still hit or miss with keepers, but plenty of shorts are around to keep anglers busy. Small killies or spinners are working best. Panfish continue to feed actively throughout the day and there are reports of large carp in the area.

Upstate near **Hunter Mountain**, Ken Josephson, of **Crazy Chief Ski and Sport** complained of week long rain which has made the streams high and muddy. As a result, fishing has been slow. A little drying out, however, might put things back on track by next weekend.

The Fisherman's CLASSIFIED

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23' 1977 SEA CRAFT CUDDY I/O, 380 hrs. Si-Tex Recorder, Datamarine 400' digital, Lee O.R.s, Dytek, Horizon VHF, CB, Mercathode sys. Full canvas. Showroom cond. $15,450. Days: 914-761-0150. Eves: 914-762-3051. Wknd: 516-728-2712.

PRIVATEER

EDDIE'S MARINE SERVICE CORP., 718-327-3168.

1971 LUHRS 32' Fiberglass, twin Chrysler 225', FWC, auto windlass, VHF, DF, synch. Scentry fume detector, constavolt, A/C. All in excl. cond. $19,500. 516-378-2612 Days. 516-378-6544 Eves & Wknds.

SUZUKI Super Sale. 150 & 200 hp V6s w/SS Props. First w/oil injection. 2 to 200 hps. Also in stock. JENSEN MARINE, 516-226-9739.

1981 22' G.W. 198 hp Mercruiser. Full canvas, automatic anchor. CB, Loran, recorders, VHF. And more. 360 hrs. I/O. Fine cond. $16,500. 516-324-6554.

LATE '83 Johnson 115 hp SS Prop, spare alum. 210 hrs. exc. $2850 w/controls. 1984 Cox Galv. trailer, 15" gal. wheels w/galv. spare 18 to 20' boat. exc. $1200. After 7PM: 516-868-1458.

21' TIARA 1979 195 hpr I/O Mercruiser, King depthfinder, Apelco Loran. In water. $9000. Wkdys: 212-595-7984. Wknds: 516-329-0447.

EGG HARBOR 36' 1960, repowered 1985. Excl. fish or cruise. VHF, DF, flybridge. 516-922-6180.

IN MONTAUK: 28' WOOD Boat, 1985 Chrysler Marine engine, Loran, VHF, CB & Graph recorder. Hydraulic winch, downrigger. Many extras. $3995 or B/O. 305-977-6664, Ext. 50 during week or 305-481-2781 Wkdys before 9AM or Wknds. Jason.

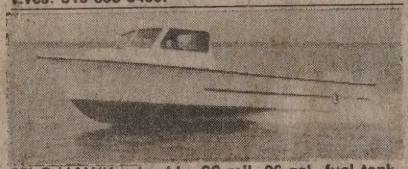
20' CRUISER CC 1976 w/1984 Johnson, 115 hp PT&T. Trailer, power winch, VHF, DF, compass. Dual batt., bilge. Many extras. $8500. 516-681-7704.

24' THUNDERBIRD Cuddy, twin 140 Merc I/O, swim platform, tuna tower, VHF, depth finder. Compass, full canvas. Repowered in '83. Excl cond. Ask: $9500. Eves: 516-589-8477.

CHRIS CRAFT Lapstrake 1946. Good cond. Sleeps 4. Just installed new motor. Dockikng space in Gravesend Bay avail. $2500. 212-684-4333. Ask for Mr. Marlo.

TWO 26' Fiberglass Launches w/4 cyl. diesels. One ready to go. Reasonable. Located LI Sound. LARRY, 718-767-7800.

25' GRADY WHITE Sailfish, twin 150 hp Johnsons. Tuna tower w/controls. Like new. Loaded w/extras. Ask: $43,000. Day: 516-226-2350 Eves: 516-598-0460.



25' C-HAWK w/cuddy, SS rail, 96 gal. fuel tank, 1986 150 hp Suzuki, SS prop. Dual batt. & W/S wipers, bilge pump, 4 rod holders. FOB $18,100. Financing avail. 17'-25' center console also avail. JENSEN MARINE, Copiague, NY. 516-226-9739.

AQUASPORT 222 Center Console, 135 Evinrude galv. trailer. Power winch. Needs some work. $4375. 516-757-8289.

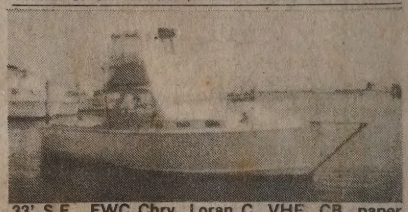
MAKO 23' twin 115 Mercs. Rebuilt. Spray Hood, Bimini. Bow fight chair. Excl. $9500. 516-541-8989

EVINRUDE

NEW 1985 EVINRUDES 1985
2-$258; 4-$470; 6-$648; 8-$748; 9.9-$988; 15-$1088; 25-$1388; 30-$1440; 40-$1700; 50-$2288; 60-$2488; 70-$2688; 90-$2900; 115-$3250; 150-$4100; 175-$4300; 235-$4700. ELECTRA MARINE INC., 610 Merrick Rd., Lynbrook, NY 11563. Scott & McCulloch parts. FOB/H. WI. 516-599-3003. We ship anywhere. MERCURY OUTBOARDS. New 1985. Phone quotes. Full service shop.

DUSKY 17' center console, 1984 Johnson 90 hp. White line recorder. New steering, w/trailer. $5900. Days: 516-427-7870.

1979 GRADY WHITE Sprint 17' 70 hp Evinrude. Trailer & full canvas. $3750. 718-225-4043.



33' S.F., FWC Chry. Loran C, VHF, CB, paper recorder. $11,000. 201-742-6176/423-2814.

25' WELLCRAFT 1976 Cuddy Sportfisherman. Original 100 hrs. Two I/O engines. New deluxe canvas. Electronics, stereo, remote anchor, spotlight. $15,500. 516-563-2168.

30' COLUMBIA. All glass. Documented 1979. Perkins 200 hp. Low hrs. 2 props, radar, Loran, VHF, CB radios. Si-Tex recorder, compass, Racor filter. Outriggers/downriggers. Fight chairs. All new canvas, cushions, 3 stations, temp gauges, fish hold. Turn-key charter boat. More equip. Presently chartering at Montauk. $40,000. 516-368-5538.

22' MARATHON 1984 Sportsfisherman cuddy cabin. Volvo Penta I/O, windlass, dual batt. Full canvas, depth finder, stereo cassette, marine radio & telephone. Fish well, elec. anchor, Porta-Potti. CG equip. Must sell. $11,400. IV 9-0828.

AQUASPORT 22' WT 1984, 200 hp Mercury, VHF, depthfinder, trim tabs, pressure water, rod racks, rod holders, tilt & trim, canvas, teak, etc. Absolute mint w/warranties. 516-728-0816/933-7267.

1979 PENN YAN, 26' Sportfish, flybridge. Dual stations, 10' beam, Bimini, anchor windlass, new teak swim platform. Exc. fishing/family. Mint. Must sell. $23,000. 203-397-3656.

1977 30' TROJAN Express Cruiser. Twin Chrysler 3-18s. Flybridge, a/c, heat, hot water. Sleeps 6. Loran, VHF, CB, outriggers plus too many extras to list. $34,995. Mint cond. Days, M-F 8-5: 581-4080. After 6: 242-0943.

25' 1984 TIARA PURSUIT, 260 hp Volvo I/O FWC. Full canvas, Loran, VHF, recorder. $28,500. 516-842-1194.

EVINRUDE

WE'LL BEAT ANY DEALER'S advertised price—and service it, too! AL GROVER'S, Freeport, 516-378-0510.

19' ALUMINUM Boat, 100 hp Evinrude, trailer, power winch. Bilge pump. Good Bay & Sound boat. $1500. 1976 25 hp Evinrude-$700. Wkdys/nights: 718-728-5482. Wknds: 516-727-0315.

1981 AQUASPORT Family Fisherman cuddy. Full canvas. Drop curtain, FWC 228 hp. CB Horizon, VHF, Ritchie compass. Live bait well. Merc Cathode, full cockpit lighting, deluxe cabin cushions, Porta-Potti. Many extras. Ask: $13,500 or best offer. Eves: 516-671-7690.

CRUISER 1975. 382 hrs. Immaculate. 175 hp OMC I/O. All extras. Out of water. New seats & canvas. $10,500. 516-883-7026.

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